

## Suspect and brother ordered held

TEL AVIV (AP) — Yitzhak Rabin's confessed assassin told a judge Monday he made a "coldhearted" decision to kill Mr. Rabin to stop the peace process. Police were investigating if he and his brother were part of a right-wing conspiracy. Magistrate Dan Arbel ordered Yigal Amir held for 15 days as the investigation continued (see page 12). His brother Hagai, who admitted giving Yigal 20 bullets of the type used to shoot Mr. Rabin, will be held for seven days. Hagai, 27, said at a separate hearing that Yigal had asked him several times whom he should kill to stop the Middle East peace process. He said Yigal had also reported to him his two aborted plans to assassinate Mr. Rabin. Hagai also admitted that he had modified 20 9-mm bullets to make them more accurate, by boring holes in them to insert iron pellets, and had given some to his brother. One of the bullets removed from Mr. Rabin's body was of that modified type. Israel Radio quoted police as saying. But Hagai denied knowing that his brother planned to kill Mr. Rabin on Saturday night and said he had not known the bullets were intended for murder.

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## World bids farewell to Yitzhak Rabin

### Slain Israeli leader laid to rest after emotional eulogies in West Jerusalem

Combined agency dispatches

TO THE WAIL of sirens and eulogies by world leaders, Israel on Monday buried its slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, assassinated by a fellow Jew who opposed his peace with Palestinians.

Soldiers and statesmen sobbed as mourners ranging from U.S. President Bill Clinton to Mr. Rabin's granddaughter praised the prime minister who died for Middle East peace.

Mr. Clinton, King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said the greatest memorial for Mr. Rabin would be to continue his drive to end half a century of Arab-Israeli fighting.

The whole of Israel stood in silent tribute for two minutes when sirens that each year commemorate the Nazi holocaust marked the start of the two-hour-long funeral on a Jerusalem hilltop. Seven soldiers fired three volleys over the grave of the former army commander to conclude the emotional ceremony.

Some 4,500 mourners stood beneath the pines and cypresses of Mount Herzl national cemetery where Mr. Rabin, hit by two bullets at a Tel Aviv peace rally on Saturday night, was laid to rest. Only a small group of relatives and dignitaries were allowed to the graveside where they put earth onto the flag-draped coffin.

Tens of thousands of Israelis stunned that a fellow Jew had broken a taboo on spilling Jewish blood, had followed the cortège to the cemetery.

"Today my fellow citizens of the world I ask all of you to take a good, hard look at this picture," said Mr. Clinton, wearing a black Jewish skullcap.

"Look at the leaders from all over the Middle East and around the world who have journeyed here today for Yitzhak Rabin and for peace. Though we no longer hear his deep and booming voice, it is he who has brought us together again in word and deed for peace," Mr. Clinton said with emotion.

Mr. Clinton, presidents, monarchs and representatives from some 50 countries,



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, along with Israel's acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres and his wife and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter among others attend Monday's funeral in West Jerusalem of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (AFP photo)

## King, Peres meet, say Rabin's death strengthens determination for peace

WEST JERUSALEM (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday received at the King David Hotel in West Jerusalem Israel's acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres and discussed with him the peace process and the latest developments in the region.

King Hussein and Mr. Peres stressed the need to advance the peace process and overcome all obstacles impeding it.

"You told me there are warnings of an assassination attempt at the large rally. We did not know who would strike. We did not imagine the harm would be so great. But we knew we must not fear death and we must not hesitate for peace," Mr. Clinton said.

Mr. Clinton, presidents, monarchs and representatives from some 50 countries,

Agency, Petra, reported.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem.

The King also received at the hotel Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono and the delegation accompanying him were expected to return home late Monday.

King Hussein and the delegation restricted the trip to West Jerusalem, refusing to travel to the Arab East for "political reasons," Sharif Zeid said.

The two sides stressed the need to exert all efforts to achieve comprehensive development in the region.

The meeting was attended by Sharif Zeid, Mr. Qasem and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti.

Their Majesties King Hus-

sein and Queen Noor also offered their condolences to Leah Rabin, wife of the assassinated Israeli premier and to members of his family.

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Even though the delegation had

been affected by Mr. Rabin's death and the King's grief.

"The death of Yitzhak Rabin has affected me, because of the loss of a man and because of the King's suffering," said one of the Jordanian delegation.

Even though it was only a stone's throw from his hotel, the King did not visit Arab East Jerusalem or the holy site of the Al Aqsa Mosque, where his grandfather King Abdullah was murdered before his eyes in 1951.

"The King is not planning to go to the eastern part of Jerusalem during his visit to Israel," Sharif Zeid told AFP.

"For political reasons, the King wants to avoid going to East Jerusalem, which was part of the Hashemite Kingdom from 1950," he added.

dan Shimon Shamir and several members of the Cabinet.

The King said in his eulogy that it was ironical that his first visit to Jerusalem since 1967 was to attend the funeral of a man who made peace with Jordan.

"Never in all my thoughts would it occur to me that my first visit to Jerusalem in response to your invitation, the invitation of the speaker of the Knesset, the invitation of the president of Israel, would be on such an occasion," said the King.

He condemned those who live in darkness, who are the enemies of life "and wished that too would join in the peace camp."

"We are not ashamed and we are not frightened, nor are we anything but determined to fulfil the legacy for which my friend fell as did my grandfather in this very city when I was but a young boy."

Mr. Rabin, he said, was a man of courage, a man of vision." The King pledged "on behalf of the people of Jordan, my family, the Hashemite family and all in the peace camp" that the fight for peace would go on.

Following are major excerpts from the King's speech:

"I never thought that the moment would come like this when I would grieve the loss of a brother, a colleague and a friend," the King said: "I believe it is time for all of us to come out openly and to speak out for peace. Not here today, but for all times to come. We belong to the camp of peace, we believe in peace."

The King was accompanied to the funeral by Her Majesty Queen Noor, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, former prime ministers Abdul Salam Majali and Zeid Rifai, King's advisors, Mohammad Rasoul Khatib, Hameidi Al Fayez, Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, Deputy Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Tahsin Shurdum, Fayed Tarawneh, Jordanian ambassador to the U.S., President of the Amman Chamber of Industry Khalid Abu Hassan and President of the Amman Chamber of Commerce Haider Murad and Israeli Ambassador to Jordan.

(Continued on page 7)

## Arafat mourns 'brave' friend as tributes continue to pour in

Combined agency dispatches

PALESTINIAN leader Yasser Arafat on Monday mourned the loss of a "brave cousin" in assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was buried at a state funeral in Israel.

Mr. Arafat stayed in Gaza as Israeli leaders did not want him to attend the ceremony at the Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem. He was represented by several ministers of the self-rule authority.

"We have confidence in Shimon Peres and we have assurances that the peace process will continue until its end," Dr. Shaath said.

Mr. Arafat's ministers of economy, local government and civilian affairs were also at the funeral in West Jerusalem.

"We lost his life for peace not only for Palestinians and Israel but for the whole area."

"We are sure Israeli and Palestinian and Arab children will live in peace during our life in this area far away from wars and destruction."

The Foreign Ministry denounced "terrorism and violence" in all forms and from wherever it comes, a committee said.

In his interview with CNN, Mr. Arafat said: "What has happened was painful for all of us but his will give us the lesson and the strength to continue in the peace process."

Mr. Arafat has been embarrassed by praise for the killing of Mr. Rabin's funeral. Mr. Kerkeni was the most senior Tunisian official ever to set foot on Israeli soil.

The General conference of the U.N. Educational, Scien-

tific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was holding a special session to pay homage to Mr. Rabin on Monday.

Nafez Azam, a leader of Islamic Jihad, said his group has not changed its position on Mr. Rabin's assassination, calling it a "just revenge for what he has done to our people."

Hamas leader Mahmoud Zahar said Mr. Arafat could not stop the Palestinians from expressing their feelings about Mr. Rabin's death.

"No one can kill the emotions of the people. Just as the Israelis are expressing their emotions by going to the funeral, many Palestinians are expressing their true emotions about Mr. Rabin's death. How can you stop a mother whose son was killed by an Israeli soldier from being happy at Rabin's death," Dr. Zahar said.

Tunisia said it "deeply deplored" the assassination of Mr. Rabin and condemned his killing as a "criminal act."

"He was quite moved. He said, 'we have lost a cousin. It's a tragedy,'" said an Arafat aide.

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"The greatest symbol was perhaps the 80 representatives of foreign nations, ministers, kings and presidents, they have come here today out of great respect for his achievements and personal recognition."

"I am sure that he would know that this is an honour to Israel. The State of Israel today enjoys respect throughout the world and is a country that... wants peace more than anything else."

President Clinton said: "Yitzhak was from the generation of '48, born in '22, a generation that was born during the British period, our independence, that wanted to build a new nation, with institutions, agriculture and industry."

"He represented the extreme aspirations of our youth in the Palmach. He was a beautiful man and from the underground that fought for independence. He was under the yoke of public service all his life, and he never diverged from that. In glorious fashion, he served in Israel's defence up to being chief-of-staff. The important and interesting experience of serving under him was mine."

"In the last two-and-a-half years we spent a lot of time together. We had conversations on all that was important and painful for the State of Israel, and I know several times I stepped on a toe. But I never heard anything from

him. His nobility in his personal dealing was supreme throughout.

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"I am sure that he would know that this is an honour to Israel. The State of Israel today enjoys respect throughout the world and is a country that... wants peace more than anything else."

"Take a good hard look at this picture, look at this picture of leaders from the Middle East and all around the world... It is he who has brought us together again," he said.

"Yitzhak Rabin lived the history of Israel." in war and

## International leaders, aide and family pay homage to Rabin

Combined agency dispatches

WORLD leaders, including U.S. President Bill Clinton, His Majesty King Hussein, Israeli President Ezer Weizman and acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Monday paid tribute to the slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at his funeral in West Jerusalem.

President Clinton, who hosted the prime minister in Washington less than two weeks ago, "His spirit must live on."

On a personal note, Mr. Clinton described Mr. Rabin as "my partner and my friend... a good man... He was a great man."

In an anecdote about how Mr. Rabin always disliked wearing ties, Mr. Clinton told a story from the last Rabin visit. "I was privileged to cross over the divide, establish the dialogue and strive to leave also for us a legacy that is worthy of him."

"And so he did. And so we became brethren and friends. I have never been used to standing except with you next

## Palestinian elections on schedule

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel's acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres told French President Jacques Chirac on Monday that elections in Palestinian autonomous territories would take place as scheduled in January, aides of Mr. Chirac said. They said Mr. Chirac had a 50-minute meeting with Mr. Peres after the funeral of slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. "The prime minister indicated the elections in the territories would go ahead at the scheduled date of Jan. 20," one aide said. They quoted Mr. Peres as saying he hoped redeployment of Israeli troops in the occupied territories would be completed by the year-end despite a heavy schedule. They said Mr. Chirac, who was the first foreign head of state to meet Mr. Peres after the funeral, voiced his conviction that Israel would pursue the peace process. The two leaders discussed various aspects of the peace process, including with Syria and Lebanon, and the forthcoming Barcelona conference in the Mediterranean. The aides said Mr. Chirac described the conference as a major opportunity for peace for all Mediterranean countries.

in a climate of trust and mutual respect.

"These achievements have undoubtedly established him as a true hero of peace."

"The untimely loss of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at this important juncture in the history of the Middle East has dealt a severe blow to our noble cause. We must therefore redouble our efforts and reaffirm our obligation to continue the sacred mission to achieve a just and lasting peace. We must deprive those traitorous hands hostile toward our goal from reaping the rewards of their vile actions."

"Only through our unwavering commitment to this objective can we truly honour the memory of this fallen hero of peace. And I could say that is the best memorial to Yitzhak Rabin."

On this sad occasion, ladies' and gentlemen, I extend the condolences of government of Egypt, and my personal condolences to the government of Israel and the family of Yitzhak Rabin."

Mr. Peres said: "We came here to salute you, Yitzhak, a clear salute to what you were. An elite fighter who attained victories for his people. A great dreamer who created a new reality in our region. This last Saturday night, we sang together the song of peace and I felt a rising spirit in your breast. You told me about warnings against your

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## Saddam fires two ministers

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Monday fired the ministers of education and irrigation, a day after he urged bureaucrats to fight corruption.

President Saddam, who is also prime minister, named Abdul Jabbar Tawfiq Mohammad, who was head of the education department within the president's office, to replace Hekmat Abdullah Al Bazzaz as education minister, state-run Baghdad Radio said.

Mahmoud Diab Al Ahmad, former housing and construction minister, replaced Irrigation Minister Nizar Jomaa Al Qassir, who in turn was appointed a presidential advisor. Mr. Ahmad was replaced by Abdullah Sarsam.

Finally, Abdul Iaham Hamid Mohammad Salih was named agriculture minister, filling a post left vacant by the death last month of Khaled Al Moneim Rashid in Rome.

The three men in new jobs in the cabinet are all technocrats.

The radio gave no reason for the changes, but President Saddam told civil servants in a letter published Sunday to "apply laws strictly and to refuse orders from their superiors, even if they are ministers, if they break these laws."

"If your superior insists, ask him for written orders so he bears the responsibility," the letter said. Civil servants must report at the highest level "anything contrary to the interests of the public service and the state."

The Iraqi president criticised officials who pulled

strings to obtain favours in contravention of the law but who still went unpunished.

President Saddam said he had warned these officials but "unfortunately this has not been implemented by all ministers or their subordinates."

The president, who was swept to another seven years in power in a referendum on Oct. 15, has waged war on corruption in the government and has urged ministers to be more democratic.

In the message, read out Sunday night on state television, the Iraqi President said:

"We address you to tell you that you have to respect the law in your work and completely to abide by it, even if any minister demands the opposite from you."

He said a cabinet decision made earlier to fight corruption and nepotism has been ignored by some ministers and senior civil servants.

He did not elaborate or name the offending officials.

Exiled Iraqi opposition sources have in recent months spoken at length about what they describe as rampant corruption in Iraq, whose economy has been crippled by more than five years of U.N. sanctions imposed for Baghdad's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The sanctions have left many of Iraq's 20 million people without enough food, medicine and other essential goods.

Much of what opposition sources say on corruption in Iraq links members of President Saddam's family and inner-circle with abuse of power, profiteering and black-market rackets.

## Iraqi paper predicts fall of Iranian regime

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Iraq on Monday predicted that Iran's Islamic fundamentalist leaders would fall soon in a bloodbath that will be worse than the revolution that overthrew the Shah in 1979.

"Iran is boiling and the explosion will come soon," the official Al Thawra newspaper said.

The end of the regime of the mullahs (clerics) will be worse than the Shah's because of the stubbornness of the leaders in Tehran in pursuing an aggressive and repressive policy toward the people of Iran," it added.

The ruling Baath Party's official newspaper said Iran "shamelessly announced the entry of its troops into Iraqi Kurdistan, under various names which fool nobody."

The Tehran-based Iraqi opposition movement, the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, said last month it would send fighters into northern Iraq to launch attacks against Iraqi troops.

The newspaper also accused Iran of changing its mind about attending the international fair in Baghdad which opened last week.

Iran said on Oct. 30 it would not take part in the fair, contradicting a statement from an Iraqi minister saying it would attend.

"The mullahs in Tehran do not miss opportunities to do wrong to Iraq, to threaten its unity and interfere in its internal affairs," it said.

The state-run press has attacked Iran for the past month, although Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Azziz said three weeks ago that

Baghdad was ready to normalise relations with Iran after the prisoner of war issue is settled.

He urged Iran to release 20,000 Iraqis who Baghdad says were taken prisoner during the 1980-1988 war between the two countries.

Nuclear studies ended

Russian and Iranian experts have completed studies on Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant, the head of Iran's atomic energy organisation said Monday.

Tehran Radio quoted Reza Amrolahi as saying Russia had agreed to build the facility at a cost of \$780 million.

Some 200 Russian and Iranian experts had been carrying out studies on the complex in southern Iran, expected on completion to provide a large part of Iran's energy needs.

The United States, which accuses Iran of sponsoring "international terrorism" and trying to obtain nuclear weapons, has failed to dissuade Moscow from going through with the nuclear deal with Tehran.

Israel also has expressed concern and warned it might attack the plant, which was left unfinished when the German company Siemens abandoned the project after the 1979 revolution.

Israeli leaders have said Iran could be as little as five years away from making a nuclear bomb. Iran has denied such allegations, saying its facilities were regularly inspected by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

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Iran could be as little as five years away from making a nuclear bomb. Iran has denied such allegations, saying its facilities were regularly inspected by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

One right-wing critic of some aspects of the peace

process wrote that the assassination had him convinced once and for all that Mr. Rabin's direction was correct.

"This night will not only be remembered as the night Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated," wrote Yosef Lapid, the editor of the Maariv daily in a column dissociating himself from the extreme right-wing Amir, the extremist who shot the Israeli prime minister dead.

"This is the night that the peace process got its final, tragic, blood-soaked confirmation."

That potential impact on public opinion was not lost on settlers.

"Lord Almighty, what did he think he could achieve," settler Hagai Segal wrote in Maariv of Amir. "Instead of letting the leftist government die a natural death, democratically, he handed it the authority of the angel of death. Madman, what have you wrought?"

Vandals trashed the headquarters of the main right-wing opposition Likud Party in the coastal town of Ashkelon on Sunday, and settlers worried they would be next.

"There could be a civil war," said Dan Marantz, a founder of a religious seminary in the centre of the West Bank city of Nablus and an acquaintance of Amir's.

He said he hoped the left would understand that Amir was atypical. "There's a difference between political rhetoric and reality, actually carrying out something."

Rabbi Menahem Froman, a settler who has initiated dialogue with Arabs, said that if the government used Mr. Rabin's assassination to crack down on the settlers the results could be "massively destructive."

"The leftist voices will attack, the right will understand it's under attack and will retaliate, and it will deteriorate."

Mr. Froman said Amir must be understood as an exception to settler ideology — but he admitted that perhaps he and other settlers had not done enough to excommunicate such extremists.

"This assassination demands an accounting of souls," he said in an inter-

view. "I used to politely smile when people threatened my life for meeting with Arabs. I should have paid more attention."

He was not the only anguished voice. Elitzur Botavim, a resident of the extremist stronghold of Kiryat Arba and a regular at right-wing demonstrations known for his imaginative inventiveness, appeared on Israeli Television ashen-faced.

"I'm so sorry if ever I said a wrong word, that was in the area of words," he cried.

"But to come to this, to killing, to come to murder, what have we come to people of Israel? No land is worth it."

At Kiryat Arba, a teacher in the settlement's Nir Jewish seminary, said: "What happened last night, God forbid, could cause war between us, between Jews."

An expert on Israeli right-wing militant groups said the ideology which fostered hatred of Arabs had its centre in Kiryat Arba had finally overflowed in Saturday night's killing.

It had become what Israelis fear most: Violence of Jews against Jews.

Kiryat Arba was the home of U.S.-born settler Baruch Goldstein who massacred at least 30 Arab worshippers in a mosque in nearby Hebron in February 1994 before survivors killed him.

"He (Rabin's assassin) murdered another Jew and we can't understand it. We can't justify it at all," said Rabbi Shimon Ben-Zion, the seminary teacher.

"That is what we told our students... although everyone had a lot against the prime minister and felt he endangered us, endangered the nation and the land of Israel," Rabbi Ben-Zion said.

Hebraw University Professor Ehud Sprinzak, an expert on Jewish militant groups, said despite the town's shock, it was the ideology of many of its residents that had spawned the first assassination.

The confessed assassin is from near Tel Aviv, but the atmosphere in which he acted came from the West Bank, he

said. "First you have Kach, but it allowed its building to be used for Goldstein's funeral.

A young couple prayed at Goldstein's grave — a tomb on a plaza complete with street lamps — on Sunday afternoon. Shortly after they departed, a teenaged girl came to pay her respects.

Mr. Sprinzak said Kahane had always admonished against shedding Jewish blood but there were Kach members ready to "cross the line."

He said their militancy, added to overheated rhetoric from more mainstream settlers spurred by Israel's continued handing over of occupied land to Palestinian rule, had paved the way for the gunman who said he shot down Mr. Rabin on "God's orders."

"First you have Kach, which can lead to no borders. Then (more moderate) organisations come up with posters of Rabin with blood on his hands and talked of putting Rabin on trial. This is how you create an atmosphere," he said.



FAREWELL TO A LEADER: People line up in front of the Israeli parliament, Knesset, to pay their respects to assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin shortly before his coffin was carried to cemetery for funeral. Around one million people, one fifth of the Israeli population, paid a tearful last tribute to their slain leader since the coffin was placed in front of the Knesset on Sunday (AFP photo)

## Rabin assassination leaves settlers unsettled, defensive

Combined Agency dispatches

ISRAEL'S SETTLERS, once loathe to praise Yitzhak Rabin, now find themselves declaring they never wanted to bury him.

A wide spectrum of Israelis — from leftists to government ministers to right-wing columnists — blame the settlement movement at the bothhouse that bred Yigal Amir, the extremist who shot the Israeli prime minister dead.

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## Assad condemns Rabin's murder

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad told the United States that he condemned the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a senior U.S. official.

The official, who asked not to be named, told reporters travelling with President Bill Clinton and a U.S. delegation to Jerusalem for Mr. Rabin's funeral that Secretary of State Warren Christopher phoned Mr. Assad on Saturday night.

Mr. Assad described the assassination as tragic and condemned it, the official said, without elaborating.

Syria, in its first official reaction to the assassination, said on Monday it will continue to work for peace and urged Israel to "make up for lost time."

"After the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Israel has to make up for lost time if it sincerely wants peace, by consecrating its efforts on serious and sincere talks on the Lebanese and Syrian tracks, to arrive at a just and global peace," the government daily Tishrin

said. "Damascus has and continues to act for peace without being influenced by any given incident or the change in any leadership," Tishrin said, adding that peace was a "strategic option" for Syria.

Syria's official media had up to now made no comment on Mr. Rabin's assassination.

Mr. Rabin's policies towards the peace process had been the subject of almost daily attacks in Syria's official media.

Syria has repeatedly called for a "peace of the brave," Tishrin said quoting a statement made by President Assad at the 1994 Geneva summit with U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The Syrian-Israeli peace talks have been deadlocked since June after a meeting of Israeli and Syrian officials failed to reach an agreement over security arrangements to accompany an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Syria and closely-aligned Lebanon are the last remaining elements Israel needs to make full peace with its Arab neighbours.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Police break up arms ring in south Egypt

MINYA (AFP) — Police have broken up a weapons ring which was the main supplier of arms to Muslim militants in south Egypt, arresting 15 dealers, security sources said on Monday. The 15, who police arrested last week in Dairut and Manafut towns 350 kilometres in the southern province Assiut, were "the most dangerous arms dealers in south Egypt. Some of the dealers admitted they were 'the main source of arms' for Muslim militant groups who have been waging a violent campaign against the government in which nearly 1,000 people have died since March 1992," the sources said. The dealers also found ready clients among the rival families involved in the many violent inter-clan feuds in south Egypt, the sources said. Police uncovered 34 machine-guns, a shotgun, 32 weapons parts and a large amount of ammunition in the dealers' homes and in an arms-making factory they also raided.

### Turkish troops kill 43 Kurdish rebels

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkish security forces have killed 43 Kurdish rebels in recent clashes in Turkey's southeastern and eastern regions, an official statement said Monday. The statement by the office of the regional governor of southeastern Turkey said the biggest clash took place in the Baskale area on the border between Turkey and Iran, where a large group of rebels from the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) clashed with Turkish troops. Twenty-seven of the rebels trying to infiltrate into Turkey from Iran were killed in the clash, the statement said, but it made no mention of troop casualties. It did not say either when the fighting took place. The statement said 12 rebels were killed in four other recent clashes in the southeastern provinces of Siirt, Tunceli, Diyarbakir and Mardin.

# Home News



HRH Princess Sarvath Al Hassan Monday signs the book of condolences at the residence of Israeli Ambassador Shimon Shamir in paying respects to the Israeli envoy and Mrs. Shamir on the death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Mr. Rabin was shot by an assassin in Tel Aviv Saturday night. He was laid to rest in Jerusalem on Monday. Standing behind the Princess (left to right) are Deputy Chief of Mission at the Israeli Embassy, Jacob Rosen, HRH Crown Prince Hassan's Private Secretary Samir Rifai, and German Ambassador to Jordan Heinrich Reiners

## ESCPWA encourages statistical surveys in member countries

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates from 13 Arab countries of Western Asia region and representatives of United Nations agencies operating in the region Monday gathered here to discuss ways to encourage statistical surveys.

The delegates, attending the first session of the Statistical Committee of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCPWA), will also review possibilities for technical cooperation in statistics and will study participating countries' statistical surveys as well as a plan of action by ESCPWA in the coming two years.

In an address at the opening session, Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf underlined the importance of the work of statisticians,

economists and politicians in the process of rehabilitating the economies of this region.

She suggested that one very important element in rehabilitating these economies is highly efficient statistical systems and sound figures and data which help decision makers in the public and private sectors.

In the coming stage, she said, the role of the public sector will gradually recede giving way to private enterprise which will handle investments and play an instrumental role in bolstering national and regional economies.

Referring to last week's Middle East and North Africa economic summit, Dr. Khalaf said that it marked the beginning of a

new era for the countries of the region paving the way for the development of its economy.

ESCPWA Executive Secretary Hazem Beblawi said the creation of ESCPWA's Statistical Committee marks the crowning of efforts by heads of statistical departments in the ESCPWA region which held four meetings since 1985.

He said that the challenges facing the region include the creation of world economic blocs something which individual governments are incapable of dealing with on their own without accurate information and statistics and without inter-regional cooperation to protect national and regional interests.

## Exhibition of building, security products opens

By Ghafia Alul  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

AMMAN — Over 35 Arab and foreign companies and institutions Monday displayed their products in the Middle East Building Exhibition (Buildex '95) and Middle East Protection Exhibition (Protex '95) in a bid to capture a larger share of the Jordanian market.

Companies from Turkey,

## Defendant pleads not guilty in grisly Salt murder case

By Rana Husseini  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

AMMAN — A 29-year-old man accused of robbing, killing and mutilating a man in Salt Monday pleaded not guilty to all charges.

The murder of 32-year-old Mahmoud Ensour in his house in Salt on Aug. 14 has shocked the residents of Salt.

The trial is being conducted under extraordinary security measures because the authorities have received reports of people threatening to take revenge and kill the defendant.

Kayed Ahmad, who earlier confessed to strangling Mahmoud Ensour, stealing his money, then cutting up his body into parts over a

money feud pleaded innocent to all charges.

According to the prosecutor general's charge sheet, in his confession to the police after his arrest on Aug. 20, Mr. Ahmad told the authorities that he killed Mr. Ensour because he defrauded the victim of JD 700 and "he wanted to get rid of him because he kept asking for his money."

The document said that last March, the defendant met Mr. Ensour and asked him to help him purchase a taxi licence.

A few weeks later, the defendant informed Mr. Ensour that he found a taxi licence seller and that he had already paid him JD 700 but that he still needed an

additional JD 1,000 to obtain the licence.

Mr. Ensour paid Ahmad JD 700 and the two men agreed to pay the rest of the amount upon the actual sale, the document said, but the defendant disappeared after that.

The document said that Ahmad planned to kill Mr. Ensour after the latter continuously asked Ahmad for his money.

On Aug. 14, Ahmad asked the victim to meet him at his house to finish the necessary papers or the taxi licence, according to the document.

The defendant sent his wife and children to Amman so he could commit the murder, the document said.

The document said that the murder was committed while Mr. Ensour had his back to the defendant. The defendant jumped at him and strangled him with a rope, stole JD 2,000 from his person and some documents. Ahmad hid the body in the bathroom and left the house "to think of a way to dispose of the body."

The document said that the defendant then returned to his house, borrowed a saw from his neighbour, cut the man's body into pieces placed it in boxes and trashed it in several areas around Salt.

Five witnesses failed to show up at court Monday and presiding judge Abdul Rahman Tawfiq set Nov. 20 for a new session.

## Agriculture minister stresses importance of farming rain-fed areas, integration

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tarif Monday opened a three-day regional conference on Integrated Crop-Livestock Systems in the Dry Areas of West Asia and North Africa by urging Arab farmers in this region to concentrate on the development of rain-fed areas and introduce integrated farming.

An integrated system entails raising livestock close to arable land and is perhaps the most ideal method of farming, the minister said in an address at the opening of the conference organised by the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and attended by 120 delegates from Jordan, eight other Arab countries, four non-Arab states and several international organisations and universities.

Mr. Ben Tarif told the meeting, held at the University of Jordan, that the Kingdom is focusing rain-fed farming in the dry and semi-arid regions because they encompass vast areas which constitute the main sheep and cattle-rearing regions.

Saying that horizontal expansion of irrigated areas is limited because of the scarcity of water and because the governments give priority to providing drinking water and water for domestic use, Mr. Ben Tarif said the ministry was concentrating on developing the region's rain-fed agricultural lands.

Mr. Ben Tarif said problems facing agricultural development include drought, poor humidity, lack of proper research in the development of these regions, a low rate of investment, unorthodox utilisation of soil, inefficient agricultural policies,

this practice has led to the shrinking of livestock wealth.

ICARDA Regional Coordinator Nasri Haddad said the growing population in the Near East and North Africa is unmatched with an increase of food production which has subsequently led to food shortages.

Dr. Haddad said that the country faced a severe shortage of food production, nearly half a million tonnes between 1988 and 1992 which could rise to 1.1 million tonnes in the year 2000.

The same can be said of Syria, Egypt, Morocco and Saudi Arabia, added Dr. Haddad.

He said food shortages in these countries prompted the concerned authorities and farmers to grow barley in areas that use to be exploited as pasture land, and

## Bahraini minister arrives for talks on electricity conservation

AMMAN (Petra) — Bahraini Minister of Electricity and Water Abdullah Jumaa Monday arrived in Amman for a four-day official visit in which he is expected to hold talks on bilateral cooperation.

Bahrain hopes to advance its relations with Jordan and promote bilateral cooperation in designing and operating electric networks, power generating plants and in guiding the public on saving on electricity, said Mr. Jumaa in an arrival statement.

Adding that Bahrain hopes to apply Jordanian systems in energy and electricity distribution, Mr. Jumaa said that he hoped to visit several electricity projects and learn about technical training for cadres employed in energy fields.

Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources officials said the Bahraini minister and his delegation will visit the Al Hussein Thermal Power Station in Zarqa and will examine the Jordan Electricity Authority's technical training facilities in Zarqa.



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Samih Darwazeh Monday received his Bahraini counterpart, Abdullah Jumaa upon his arrival in Amman (Petra photo)

Mr. Jumaa is also expected to sign the minutes of deliberations with his Jordanian counterpart Samih Darwazeh during the visit to pave the ground for mutual cooperation in electricity and energy fields.

Mr. Darwazeh and ministry officials welcomed the Bahraini delegation upon their arrival in Amman.

He said the hospital will have its own blood bank to serve Irbid Governorate as well as a special thalassemia unit specialising in the treatment of thalassemia. The special thalassemia unit will open to the public by Dec. 1, added the minister.

Dr. Bataineh said the hospital, set up on 5,000 square metres, includes emergency units, laboratories, lecture halls, paediatric units for children suffering with thalassemia (a blood disorder characterised by a deficiency of haemoglobin), children's clinics and other support services and utilities.

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FILM  
\* "Tapis," at the Instituto Cervantes at 6:00pm.

### CONCERT

\* Piano recital by Egyptian concert pianist Mushira Issa at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 pm.

### SEMINAR

\* Discussion and slide show of the works of Jordanian artist Rafiq Laham with the participation of artists Hussein Da'seh and Mohammad Amiri at the Phoenix Gallery, Gardens Street at 6:00 p.m.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### BANI HAMIDA FALL EXHIBITION

\* The Bani Hamida Women's Weaving Project presents "Winds of Change" its fall exhibition at the Jerusalem Insurance Company in Shmeisani (Tel. 658696)

### EXHIBITIONS

\* "The Birth of Movies," at the Royal Cultural Centre.

\* Metal works by Ammar Khammash at Liwan, off Wadi Saqra Street. Also displaying all kinds of handicrafts. (Tel 699141)

\* Paintings by Iraqi artist Salih Al Jumai'i at Ab'dad Art Gallery.

\* Paintings by Shakir Hassan Al Said at the French Cultural Centre.

\* A retrospective exhibition of sculptures and drawings (1965-1995) by Mona Saudi at Dara Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh.

## Sri Lanka rebels kill 12 soldiers in east

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Tamil Tiger guerrillas killed 12 soldiers and wounded three in an attack on a route-clearing patrol in eastern Sri Lanka Monday, the military said.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam used mortar bombs and small arms in the attack a few miles northwest of Batticaloa town, a statement said.

The clash followed a rebel ambush of an army foot patrol further north in which soldiers fought back and killed five LTTE fighters, the military said. The bodies were due to be handed back to the LTTE via the International Committee of the Red Cross, it said.

In the eastern port of Trincomalee, a 30-year-old man was shot dead by a suspected LTTE guerrilla, police sources said.

Sri Lanka Monday slammed the United Nations for voicing concern over the fate of thousands of civilians displaced by ethnic conflict in the island's north, and ruled out any direct role for international aid agencies.

Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar told reporters that U.N. Secretary General Boutros

Ghali had expressed concern over the situation "without the full knowledge of the available facts."

He said Dr. Ghali went ahead with the statement Friday despite pleadings by Colombo.

"We have already given a response (to the U.N. chief) by saying we can take care of our problem," said Mr. Kadirgamar, a Tamil and a confidant of President Chandrika Kumaratunga.

"But I will be sending him a sharper reply."

The minister said the government was undertaking a massive relief effort with the cooperation of the International Committee of the Red Cross for caring for the thousands fleeing fighting with Tamil rebels in the north.

"There is no need for anyone else to get involved," he said.

Mr. Kadirgamar said non-governmental agencies already operating in Sri Lanka's embattled northern region would be permitted to continue their "normal work," but added that any "enhanced activity" would be under government supervision.

On Friday, Dr. Ghali called on "all concerned to

facilitate relief assistance to the affected population by humanitarian organisations."

Sri Lanka's Tamil rebels are holding back residents of their besieged northern stronghold to guarantee civilian casualties and a subsequent outcry overseas when the army strikes, a senior military source said Monday.

The armed forces Monday were digging in at the northeastern approach to Jaffna town, the spiritual capital of the LTTE, fighting for their own country in the north and east of majority Sinhalese Sri Lanka.

The military has been at pains to stress that it is in no rush to enter the town, believed to be heavily laced with mines and booby-traps, and that it will only continue its advance when it is ready.

Agencies say the town is largely deserted and that up to 500,000 people have fled the current round of fighting. Military analysts say about 40,000 rebels and civilians may still be in the town.

"We know how the Tigers work," the military source said. "Most of Jaffna town has been evacuated but the

Tigers are there, waiting with some civilians. When the bombs fall, when the air raids come, they can say the armed forces are killing innocent civilians."

"They want the military to score some black marks with international opinion."

He said heavy rain was proving an obstacle and a Western diplomatic source said any push on Jaffna town, if it comes, could be as much as 10 days to two weeks away.

"No one can say rain won't affect us," the military source said. "Mobility is difficult, especially armour. And it affects the mortars."

He said mortar shells were penetrating boggy land instead of fragmenting as intended. He said the army was using them "very carefully" to minimise waste.

When and if the troops go all the way and take Jaffna town is the subject of much debate. Analysts point out that urban terrain operations are the most expensive and difficult, with pockets of the advancing force easily isolated.

The military estimates some 1,000 rebels have been killed in two weeks of fighting on the Jaffna peninsula and puts its own losses at 221 killed and 536 wounded. More than 50,000 people have died in the 12-year war.

military analyst said Sunday.

The government has stressed that it has been forced into the war by the LTTE who broke a truce in April and shunned invitations to view a "peace package" of devolution proposals.

It says the aim of the war is to liberate the Tamils in the north and east from the LTTE.

On Monday, a Western diplomat said of the Jaffna push: "You can't liberate someone if there is no one there to liberate."

The Tigers appear to be digging in for a likely last-ditch defence, diplomatic and aid sources said.

One source said it was still unclear how far the rebels would go. "They could even blow up the entire town (rather) than let it fall into government hands," he said.

The military estimates some 1,000 rebels have been killed in two weeks of fighting on the Jaffna peninsula and puts its own losses at 221 killed and 536 wounded. More than 50,000 people have died in the 12-year war.

## Up to 50 hurt in clashes during Dhaka blockade

DHAKA (R) — At least 50 people were injured in clashes between police and bomb-throwing protesters during a transport shutdown in the Bangladesh capital of Dhaka Monday, witnesses said.

The blockade was called by main opposition parties in their ongoing effort to force fresh elections under a neutral caretaker government, which they believe would ensure free voting.

Fighting broke out near the city's Mahakhal Bus Station and several other points where opposition activists took positions in the morning.

Several policemen and three news photographers, including Rafiqur Rahman of Reuters Television, were wounded by bomb splinters.

Police used tear gas, batons and hot water in attempts to disperse the protesters, one witness said.

Millions of people were stranded across Bangladesh

by the blockade that came in the wake of persistent refusals by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to hand over power to an interim successor.

A few trains left Dhaka's Kamalapur Railway Station early Monday but one was derailed after protesters allegedly removed plates from the tracks at Majukhan in the city's suburbs.

Police said an unspecified number of passengers were injured in the derailment.

The other trains were also halted by stone-throwing protesters, they said.

"The blockade has been a hundred percent success here," said an official in the southern city of Khulna.

"It has virtually turned into a general strike as people also did not take out their private cars," he told Reuters.

In the port city of Chittagong and the northeastern city of Sylhet, there were no traffic on streets

except for rickshaws, local reporters said.

Many private offices were closed and most businesses shut. Government offices kept their doors open but few employees turned up.

In Dhaka, streets were taken over by thousands of rickshaws in the absence of motorised vehicles, witnesses said. Buses did not leave their stations and ferries remained anchored.

Police arrested about a dozen protesters, witnesses said.

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina said late Sunday that Mrs. Khaleda had slammed shut the door on a negotiated settlement of the dispute over future elections.

Opposition parties accuse Mrs. Khaleda's government of by-election fraud and sweeping corruption, and say no election under her will be fair.

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has denied the charges, and says

the opposition has "pre-conceived fears" of an election defeat.

The campaign against Mrs. Khaleda intensified in December when almost all opposition legislators resigned from parliament trying to force the prime minister to accept their demand for elections under a neutral caretaker administration.

They asked Mrs. Khaleda to step down and dissolve parliament. Mrs. Khaleda rejected the demands as unconstitutional.

The opposition has called for a weeklong national strike from Nov. 11 and threatened further action to force Mrs. Khaleda to concede.

Chief Election Commissioner A.K.M. Sadeque said Sunday that the next general elections would be held between January and April, 1996.

## Pakistan: Kashmir polls will heighten tensions in region

### ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) —

Condemning legislative elections in India's violent state of Kashmir, Pakistan's Foreign Minister warned Monday that next month's polls will heighten tensions in an already volatile region.

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Georgian government leader Edward Shevardnadze casts his vote during the first presidential and parliamentary elections Sunday (AFP photo)

## Shevardnadze declares victory in Georgia poll

### TBILISI (R) —

Former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze declared victory Monday in Georgia's presidential election, saying he had won backing for a programme for "saving the country".

Election officials in the turbulent Transcaucasus state were still counting the votes from Sunday's poll. But Central Electoral Commission Chairman Ivane Kiguradze said Mr. Shevardnadze had won 70 per cent support in areas where the count had been completed.

"He is the only man who can nurture hope," said a woman carrying a small girl in her arms.

Mr. Shevardnadze hopes his Citizens' Union group will also win a majority in parliament to help him rein in separatists and continue market reforms which he says are already bearing fruit.

But right-wing parties opposed to closer ties with Russia are expected to have at least a strong representation.

Mr. Kiguradze said that 62 per cent of the 3.2 million eligible voters had cast their ballots, making the election valid.

International observers say they have registered no major irregularities. But representatives of Mr. Shevardnadze's main rival, Soviet-era Communist boss Dzhumber Patashvili, said their backers had found violations in several regions.

The separatist regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which contain about five per cent of Georgia's population, boycotted the election.

Mr. Shevardnadze, 67, who has been Georgia's leader since 1992 without having the title of president, needed a simple majority to win the presidential election outright in the first round.

He said his own information suggested he had won convincingly, perhaps with more than 70 per cent.

"Such support is great. This is our common victory, it is Georgia's victory," Mr. Shevardnadze said in a radio interview.

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## New nature reserve planned in China

BEIJING (AP) — The largest place in China with no human population will become a 45,000-square-kilometre (18,000-square-mile) nature reserve in northwestern Qinghai province, an official report said Sunday. The area, called Hoh Xil, is 5,000 metres (16,404 feet) above sea level in the Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, where Qinghai, Tibet and Xinjiang meet. Hoh Xil is home to about 40,000 animals, including wild yaks and asses, antelopes, snow leopards, brown bears, wild sheep and snow pheasants. The Xinhua News Agency reported the provincial government has decided to designate Hoh Xil as a nature reserve. It will ban tourism and exploration for natural resources in a 15,500-square-kilometre (6,200-square-mile) central part of the reserve, the report said.

## Britons sentenced for possessing pornography

### BANGKOK (AFP) —

Two British radio announcers were given suspended three-month jail sentences Monday and fined 3,000 baht (\$120) for possessing pornography, immigration police said. The two men, Ian Baker, 44, and Clifford Armstrong, 34, would be allowed to stay in Thailand during the one-year suspension period, police said, after the two men were sentenced by a Bangkok court.

"It's great," said a middle-aged man in the capital. "Tbilisi.

"He is the only man who can nurture hope," said a woman carrying a small girl in her arms.

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## Britain's Yes Minister actor dies of skin cancer

LONDON (R) — British comic actor Paul Eddington, whose Yes, Minister television political satire was a world-wide hit, died at the weekend of a rare form of skin cancer.

Tributes poured in Monday to the popular actor whose performances as a vacillating, incompetent minister and later prime minister were so admired by Premier Margaret Thatcher that she awarded him the honour of Commander of the British Empire.



An Israeli man mourns with his family while waiting for the convoy carrying the coffin of the assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to arrive near the knesset, where his coffin was placed to allow the public to pay their last respect (AFP photo)

### Israeli children react strongly to Rabin's death

MACCABIM, Israel (R) — Frightened Israeli schoolchildren drew coffins, crying clouds and broken hearts in class workshops and discussions Sunday which teachers hoped would soften the shock of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's death.

The morning after the assassination, children across Israel began the day in sombre school assemblies where Israeli flags were lowered to half-mast.

At Maoz Hamaccabim Primary School, 30 kilometres from Jerusalem, many wept as they sang one of Israel's best known melodies, 'The Song Of Peace' — which Rabin himself sang at the Tel Aviv peace rally where he was gunned down Saturday.

"They feel terribly afraid. They don't know what will happen or why the leader of

suburb, used crayons and pens to express their feelings. A binder was placed on a table in the hall for any written thoughts they wished to share.

Some pictures showed Mr. Rabin on a stage surrounded by a crowd — depicting the scene of the shooting. Several children in Ms. Hyperman's class drew coffins and wrote "Rabin" on them.

"They wrote condolence letters to (Rabin's) family and drew scary pictures and clouds that cry, and wrote on them 'I am angry.' One girl drew a broken heart," Ms. Hyperman said.

"They wrote letters to Rabin, saying what they think of him and noted that a man who was in favour of peace and against violence was killed."

"We are talking about a minority, but this minority frightens us. These small children cannot hide the indoctrination they got at a peace rally where he was gunned down Saturday," Mr. Rubinstein said.

Children at the school in Maccabim, a well-to-do

Storm kills nearly 500 Filipinos; toll to mount

MANILA (R) — Super-typhoon Angela has killed nearly 500 people in the Philippines and the death toll will mount as rescue teams fight to dig out bodies from under the rubble of destroyed homes, relief officials said Monday.

At least 490 people are confirmed dead after Angela, packing peak winds of up to 270 kph (167 mph), battered the Bicol region at the southern end of Luzon Island and then sideswept Manila, the Office of Civil Defence (OCD) said.

"This is only partial. It will go up. Most likely, it will top 500," OCD spokesperson Dolores Manio said by phone.

"I wish the death toll would stay at this level, but there are many areas that have not yet reported," she added.

Almost 50,000 houses and traditional palm thatch huts were demolished by the typhoon and damage to

crops and property has already passed two billion pesos (\$77 million).

The severe damage from Angela and tropical storm Zack last week has forced several analysts to prune their estimates on growth for the Philippine economy in 1995 from a government forecast of 6.0 per cent growth in gross national product (GNP).

"I figure it will be five per cent," Patrick Garcia of L.M. Garcia and Associates said in an interview. "It (the typhoon) will have a detrimental effect on GNP and inflation."

"It should lower the growth rate of the country," Jonas Ferrer, research chief of Prive Securities, added. "If another typhoon like this hits us again, we're dead."

The typhoon is also seen pushing up inflation, which surged to a year-high of 11.8 per cent in September against the previous month's 8.4 per cent.

The putrid smell of rotting corpses permeated the air of

### More S. Korea firms to be summoned over scandal

SEOUL (R) — South Korean prosecutors, probing ex-President Roh Tae-Woo's slush fund, said Monday they were drawing up a list of business conglomerates suspected of toppling up the disgraced former leader's coffers.

"After tracking bank accounts, some corporations suspected of having provided funds to former President Roh Tae-Woo have been exposed," an official at the prosecutor-general's office said by telephone.

He declined to give the names of the corporations but said: "Today, prosecutors will make a decision on the standards and timing for summoning entrepreneurs believed to be connected with this scandal and begin investigating them in earnest."

The domestic Yonhap News Agency quoted an unidentified senior prosecutor as saying top executives of the giant Daewoo Group were being summoned later Monday over allegations the group helped Mr. Roh shift \$30 billion won (\$39

million) from borrowed-name bank accounts into real-name accounts.

Daewoo Chairman Kim Woo-Choong, now on an overseas business trip, would be summoned as soon as he returned home, the prosecutor was quoted as saying.

Prosecutors could not confirm the report.

Mr. Roh, 62, made a tearful confession last month he amassed a \$654 million secret slush fund through donations from the country's leading business conglomerates, known as "chaebol," during his 1988-1993 tenure.

Prosecutors are trying to find out if Mr. Roh was telling the whole truth and investigating chabot which took part in huge industrial or infrastructure projects during his term.

Local news media Monday said prosecutors were looking into the possibility that part of Mr. Roh's slush fund was hidden in real estate registered under borrowed names.

The main opposition National Congress for New

Politics decided to press for parliamentary hearings to dig out the whole truth of the scandal, a party spokesman said.

Prosecutors have said Mr. Roh's relatives could be the key to unlocking the secrets of where the ex-president's money is now stashed. They have asked the Foreign Ministry for help in searching through Swiss bank accounts.

Roh has said he still holds \$242 million, but prosecutors are not taking him at his word.

False-name bank accounts were outlawed two years ago by President Kim Young-Sam who, since his inauguration in February 1993, has vowed to stamp out corruption piled up during three decades of military-backed rule in the country.

The slush fund row, regarded as the country's largest ever financial scandal, has triggered a storm of nationwide protests by students, dissidents and other citizens demanding punishment for Mr. Roh, a retired four-star general.

### Walesa praised after poll, but faces tough days ahead

WARSAW (R) — Polish President Lech Walesa Monday entered a last leg of campaigning for re-election, his strong showing in the weekend's first round vote praised by allies and compared even by one avowed foe to a tank assault.

Mr. Walesa, who only months ago appeared to have little prospect of a second five-year term made a remarkable comeback, capturing, according to preliminary results, 33.3 per cent of votes to ex-Communist Aleksander Kwasniewski's 34.8.

The rivals must now campaign for the votes of 11 eliminated candidates before a runoff on Nov. 19.

Mr. Walesa appears well placed to benefit from an end to division on the right.

"Aleksander

Kwasniewski and Lech Walesa drew well away from the other candidates and they both achieved success," the pro-Kwasniewski daily Trybuna said in an editorial.

Only a few months ago,

Mr. Walesa's popularity ratings dropped to single figures. Trybuna's recognition of his achievement, even if laced with heavy irony, was notable.

"Lech Walesa stormed like a tank and in just a few weeks rebuilt the electorate he had five years ago," it said.

Some newspapers said Mr. Walesa's comeback signalled voters were afraid a Kwasniewski victory would transfer all political power to the ruling left wing, already dominating government and parliament.

The pro-Walesa daily

Zycie Warszawy said Poles would face a clear-cut choice in the second round.

"The choice is simply whether we want a Poland where the single political force again holds all the power behind the facade of democracy, or a Poland where citizens' rights are secured by pluralism and a balance of power," it said.

Mr. Kwasniewski's Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) already holds sway over parliament and government.

The electorate proved

resistant to demagoguery and showed greater maturity than in previous elections, the business daily Rzecznopolski said.

Extremist candidates won virtually no support from the electorate.

The two weeks to the sec-

ond round will pit Mr. Walesa and Mr. Kwasniewski in a fierce competition for the third of the electorate who voted for the 11 other first round candidates, and analysts say arithmetic is on Mr.

### ANC urges tight security in KwaZulu-Natal polls

DURBAN, South Africa (AP) — Fresh from triumphal local elections around most of the country, the African National Congress Sunday called for tight security when voting is finally held in strife-torn KwaZulu-Natal province next year.

The province was omitted from Wednesday's first all-race balloting for local and rural councils that swept away the last vestiges of white-minority rule, which was eliminated on

national level with seminal democratic elections in April 1994.

Fighting between supporters of the ANC and the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party in the province has claimed thousands of lives over the past decade.

Disputes over election boundaries forced the postponement of voting until March 27.

Concluding a two-day provincial party congress Sunday, the ANC called on

President Nelson Mandela's

government to ensure elections security and the arrest of anyone found disrupting the poll or intimidating voters or election officials.

The ANC claimed that traditional chiefs in some rural areas, most of whom are allied with Inkatha, had intimidated residents into not registering for the elections.

KwaZulu-Natal was one

of only two of South Africa's nine provinces that

Mr. Mandela's ANC failed to win in last year's voting.

The other, Western Cape, showed a massive shift away from the white-led National Party, which ruled under apartheid, towards the ANC in last week's polling.

However, voting has also been postponed until next spring in National Party-controlled Cape Town, South Africa's second-largest city after Johannesburg, due to boundary disputes.

### Haiti Senate

#### clears

#### Werleight as first woman leader

PONT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (R) — The Senate approved Claude Werleight as Haiti's first woman Prime Minister Sunday, one of the last major hurdles before she is confirmed as Haiti's new premier.

But many areas have failed to file their reports with the OCD after communications were knocked down by Angela's ferocious winds, she added.

In Manila, power in many areas has not yet been restored three days after Angela swept through the area. But life has returned largely to normal as Filipinos began reporting for work and flocked to shopping malls.

DUBLIN (R) — Four Irish Republican guerrillas were released early from a Dublin jail Monday as part of the Irish government's attempts to further the Northern Ireland peace process.

Two of them went straight to court for an extradition hearing in which Britain will press for them to be handed over for another trial.

Nessa Quinlivan and Pearce McCauley shot their way out of a London jail in 1991 while awaiting trial on charges of conspiracy to murder and cause explosions.

They were arrested in

Ireland two years later and were serving 10 and 12 years respectively for armed robbery.

The releases brought to 36

the number of IRA prisoners granted early freedom by the Irish government over the past 18 months.

Rival Republican and

Protestant guerrillas declared ceasefires last year in their 25-year battle over

British rule of Northern

Ireland. But the search for a permanent political settlement is deadlocked over British demands that both sides hand in their weapons before peace talks can start.

They were arrested in

Hanoi expels 2 Vietnamese-Americans

HANOI (R) — Vietnam has expelled two Vietnamese-Americans jailed in August for plotting to overthrow the government. Vietnamese and U.S. officials said Monday, removing an obstacle to improved trade relations between Hanoi and Washington.

A Vietnamese official in Ho Chi Minh City, who asked not to be named, said Nguyen Tan Tri and Tran Quang Liem had been deported from Vietnam Sunday morning, within hours of an announcement by the official Vietnam News Agency (VNA) of Hanoi's decision to expel them.

The decision to deport them marks an about-turn for Hanoi which had earlier indicated they would have to serve their full prison sentences before being expelled.

It also follows pressure from Washington, which had criticised the decision to jail them saying the pair were "peacefully" asserting their political views.

The United States added

at the time that such behaviour would make it harder

for Hanoi to win trade benefits it seeks from Congress.

U.S. diplomats and business executives in Hanoi declined comment on the case Monday, but the move, which came on the eve of a series of visits by U.S. trade representatives and cultural groups to Hanoi, was welcomed in private by members of the American community in the Vietnamese capital.

"Obviously when one of the designated human rights candidates gets freed it removes a potential problem," said one business executive, who refused to be named.

"It's a good step, it'll take away another obstacle," he added.

The United States formally established full diplomatic ties with Vietnam in Aug. 20 years after the end of the Vietnam War.

The spokesman said he

did not have details of their expected arrival time in the United States, but understood the pair were flying to Los Angeles.

Mr. Tri and Mr. Liem were first arrested in November of 1993, and placed on trial in Ho Chi Minh City in August. They were sentenced along with seven Vietnamese nationals to varying prison terms on subversion charges.

The decision to deport them marks an about-turn for Hanoi which had earlier indicated they would have to serve their full prison sentences before being expelled.

The move was confirmed

by a U.S. embassy

spokesman in Hanoi who

said the pair had been

placed on a flight to

Bangkok before being sent

back to the United States.

The spokesman said he

did not have details of their

expected arrival time in the

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# Features

## Two Algerians indicted for bombings in France

PARIS (Agencies) — Two Algerians were indicted on Monday in connection with a wave of terrorist bombings across France which have killed nearly 200 since last July 25.

The two were each charged in connection with different attacks in the series of eight bombings and attempted bombings blamed on the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which is fighting to overthrow the military-backed Algerian government and blames France for backing the Algiers regime.

Anti-terrorist Judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere charged Omar Alloua, alias Smaïn Aït Ali Belkacem, 27, with attempted murder for an attack on a Paris underground train last month which injured 28 people, judicial sources said.

Mr. Alloua was one of three men arrested last Thursday at Villeneuve d'Ascq, near Lille in north-eastern France, for allegedly planning to bomb a market in the northern French city. Judge Bruguiere also indicted Boualem Bensaïd, 28 — whose arrest last week preceded a number of arrests in France and London — with an October 6 blast at the Maison Blanche metro station in Paris.

Parisian authorities consider him one of the brains behind the blasts in France to be a voice of the GIA.

Algerian sources said Mr. Abu Fares is close to purported GIA head Djamel Zitouni.

Farouk Deneche was said in press reports to be the brother of Abdul Karim Deneche, an Algerian suspected in the first Paris bombing in July, and who Sweden has refused to extradite to France.

The Scotland Yard spokesman said he was asked to say how many persons were arrested on Sunday, but said the raids included the seizure of unspecified "documents."

The suspects were being held in London's high-security Paddington Green jail under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which allows detention for periods of up to

## King reaffirms pledge to stay course of peace

(Continued from page 1) one God. This is where we stand. This is our camp. "Maybe God will bless you with the realisation that you must join it, and we pray that you will. But otherwise we are not ashamed, nor are we afraid, nor are we anything but determined to conclude the legacy for which my friend fell as did my grandfather in this very city when I was with him as but a young boy.

"Never in all my thoughts would it occur to me that my first visit to Jerusalem in response to your invitation, the invitation of the speaker of the Knesset, the invitation of the president of Israel, would be on such an occasion.

"You lived as a soldier for peace, and I believe it is time for all of us to come out openly and to speak of peace. Not here today but for all the times to come. We belong to the camp of peace. We believe in peace. We believe that our one God wishes us to live in peace and wishes peace upon us. For these are His teachings to all the followers of the three great monotheistic religions, the children of Abraham.

"And when my time comes, I hope it will be like my grandfather's and like Yitzhak Rabin's.

"So many live and so many inevitably die. This is the will of God. This is the way of the world. But those who are fortunate and lucky in life are those who leave something behind. And you are such a man, my friend.

## Arafat mourns 'brave friend'

(Continued from page 1) occupied Arab territories, said a hand of hatred had struck down Mr. Rabin.

"Once again the cruel hand of intolerance and hatred has struck down a leader who had the courage to choose the path of peace out of the wilderness of endless war," the WCC declared in a statement from its general secretary, Konrad Reiser.

"Israel, the Middle East and the world are impoverished by this ignominious deed and the loss it has caused," said Mr. Reiser, also a leader of Germany's evangelical church.

"As prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin was wise enough to see that in these lands, considered holy by those who follow the three Abrahamic faiths, there must be room for all and a way to live together in peace."

"May God grant that those who resist such a choice take this tragedy as a warning and as an opportunity to turn towards the promise of a common future for Israel and its neighbours," the statement added.

Several Gulf Arab news-

bomb left on the high-speed railway line.

Scotland Yard meanwhile maintained the heat on London's Algerian Islamic community after a spate of weekend arrests in connection with attacks in France claimed by Muslim fundamentalists.

A spokeswoman said two men arrested Saturday under Britain's Prevention of Terrorism Act, and an unspecified number arrested on Sunday, were still in custody midday Monday.

She declined to give their names or nationalities. But one detained Saturday was identified by police sources as Abdul Kader Benouïd, also known as Abu Fares. The British press said the second one was Farouk Deneche.

Mr. Abu Fares, considered by Algeria as a long-time member of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), was sentenced to death in absentia in Algeria in connection with a 1992 attack that killed nine and injured 123 at the Algiers airport.

Parisian authorities consider him one of the brains behind the blasts in France to be a voice of the GIA.

Algerian sources said Mr. Abu Fares is close to purported GIA head Djamel Zitouni.

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The Scotland Yard spokesman said he was asked to say how many persons were arrested on Sunday, but said the raids included the seizure of unspecified "documents."

The suspects were being held in London's high-security Paddington Green jail under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which allows detention for periods of up to

48 hours without charge or warrant.

A special order from the Home Office would be required to extend the detention without charge, but then only to a maximum of five additional days. There was no indication that an extension had been requested.

The British press said the suspects were to be questioned by French police and investigating magistrates expected in London on Monday. But Scotland Yard denied this, saying only that they were "liaising with French police."

Neither Scotland Yard nor the Home Office would comment on reports of international arrest warrants or a French extradition request concerning any of those being held.

British press reports, quoting intelligence sources, said Mr. Abu Fares had asked Britain for political asylum about a year ago and has been living here on public assistance while his case is under consideration.

The reports said he headed the London extremist Arabic language underground newspaper Al Ansar, considered to be a voice of the GIA.

Al Ansar, distributed principally outside London mosques after Friday prayers, has called for the assassination of Westerners and Algerian government representatives.

The weekend arrests were seen as a sign that Britain, accused by France and by Arab ambassadors here of having too soft an approach to extremists, was adopting a more heavy-handed attitude.

The arrests came three days after Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind warned he intended to take "a very, very hard line" against Islamic extremists seeking to promote terrorism from British soil.

It was, said Mr. Rifkind, "out of the question that Great Britain should become an exporter of terrorism."

## Crown Prince pays tribute to Rabin, says faith in peace is stronger than violence

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath on Monday visited the residence of the Israeli ambassador to Jordan to offer their condolences over the death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Writing in the condolences register in his name and on behalf of Princess Sarvath, Prince Hassan said: "We in Jordan are disgusted by repetition of these foolish and barbaric acts of violence. These feelings are only overcome by our inalienable faith in and commitment to peace, righteousness and justice. We are certain that these values were dear to the late Israeli prime minister."

Prince Hassan told the press that he was grieved and pained by the loss of Mr. Rabin, who "contributed to the success of the peace process and paid his life as a price for it."

He added that the presence of heads of state and prime ministers at the funeral of Mr. Rabin emphasises the seriousness of the world countries' commitment to achieving peace in the region.

Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath were received at the residence of the Israeli ambassador to Jordan by His Majesty King Hussein on his trip to West Jerusalem to attend Mr. Rabin's funeral.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Monday signs the condolences register at the residence of the Israeli ambassador in Amman. Behind the Crown Prince are (left to right) Deputy Chief of Mission at the Israeli embassy Jacob Rosen, the Crown Prince's secretary Samir Rifai and the German Ambassador Heinrich Reiners

sador's wife. The ambassador, Shimon Shamir, accompanied His Majesty King Hussein on his trip to West Jerusalem to attend Mr. Rabin's funeral.

## World homage

(Continued from page 1) life at this rally. We did not know who is the terrorist, we did not imagine that the injury would be so great, but we knew we must not fear death and we must not hesitate in the peace.

"Before that we sat, as is our custom, behind closed doors and you told me for the first time that the job wearing you down, but the quest for peace obligates you..."

"You worked hard all your life, night and day, but the last three years were a crowning glory of your efforts. You promised to change the order of priorities and here came a new round of priorities. A strong new wind of peace began to blow. Two peace accords with the Palestinians. These two agreements will allow them to go forward to just elections and we will not have to maintain an army in order to govern a foreign people..."

"I see our people with tears in their eyes but we know that the dummy bullet that killed you cannot kill the idea you started. You did not leave a will and testament but you left us a way upon which we will march with faith and determination...."

"Farewell to you my elder brother, the bringer of peace. We will continue to carry this great peace from near and far, what you wanted in your life, what you left as your legacy."

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said:

"His name will forever be associated in history with the accomplishment of an unprecedented task, that of making a transition to a new relationship of peace and cooperation between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples."

Jordanians generally still view Israel as an occupier which is reluctant to accommodate Palestinian rights to nationhood and to withdraw from the rest of the occupied Arab territories in Syria and Lebanon.

"Only through our unwavering commitment to this objective can we honour the memory of this fallen hero of peace."

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said that the world should take its inspiration from Mr. Rabin to create a united nation.

He told the funeral ceremony that everyone had known the road to peace would "be hard and long."

"The mainstone was laid, but the road was not at the end. Mr. Rabin was one of the main engineers of that peace, he was a man who knew war and fought for peace."

The cabinet chief of Mr. Rabin read out the blood-soaked copy of a peace song found in the pocket of the slain prime minister.

"Your blood covers the words," said Eytan Haber. "From this red paper, the blood... which cries out to us, I wish to read the words, from the last song that you sang."

"Only the rejoicing in the victory is ours," he concluded, reading the sheet neatly folded in four found in Mr. Rabin's pocket after he was gunned down by a Jewish fanatic minutes after attending a peace rally in Tel Aviv on Saturday.

The granddaughter of Mr. Rabin broke down in tears as she paid a touching tribute to her own private hero and spoke of the "nightmare" of his death.

"Now I wake up in a nightmare... I know people speak in terms of national disaster, but grandma can't stop crying," said Noa Ben-Artzi.

"Oncs greater than I have eulogised you, but none knew the softness of your care or that half-smile of yours that always said everything, that smile that is no longer there."

"There is no feeling of revenge in me for the pain does not allow it space. The ground that has been swept from under us will be the base of our recovery."

She said that the people who criticised his peace policies "knew nothing of you, and this is indeed a deep destruction on the family that stayed behind in the camp waiting for the pillar of fire."

"Grandfather you were and still are our own private hero. I want you to know that everything I did and will do is for you... You were so wonderful."

"I ask of you that you rest in peace and know that we are thinking of you and miss you. For us below remain constant in our love towards you."

She left the podium sobbing after her speech.

## Jordan loses partner in peace

By Rana Sabbagh  
Reuter

AMMAN — The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has deprived Jordan of a trusted partner in its drive to expand the peace it reached with the Jewish state into a wider Middle East settlement.

"I personally have lost a true friend in this region," King Hussein said in a letter to Israeli President Ezer Weizman. "I shall always remember him as my dedicated colleague and fellow shepherd of the Jordanian-Israeli peace process."

The King himself appears confident that Shimon Peres, who took over as caretaker prime minister, will stick to the path of his predecessor.

This concerns Jordanian officials, the diplomat said.

But the King will miss the rapport he built with Rabin over reaching the October 1994 peace treaty.

Both showed pragmatism, urging their people to topple psychological barriers and take calculated risks for peace.

But many Jordanians remain hostile to Israel and

the peace treaty, which has failed to bring rapid economic gains.

And the assassination of Rabin by a Jewish student who supported Jewish settlement on Palestinian land has raised questions about the pace of the U.S.-driven Middle East peace process ahead of Israeli general elections in 1996.

"Jordanian officials seem worried because they do not know what will happen next in Israel, and how this could affect broader peace in the region, which they still need," a senior western diplomat told Reuters.

It could delay progress on other Arab-Israeli deals that Jordan feels it needs to cement its own peace accord.

This concerns Jordanian officials, the diplomat said.

"They are raising many uncertainties that could lie ahead, including fear of internal feuds in the Labour Party, whether Peres can match Rabin's leadership qualities to take crucial decisions on the rest of the Arab peace tracks, and if he can set up a stable government in most Arab capitals."

"The attack occurred during a pro-peace rally," said Fayez Al Tarawneh, Jordan's ambassador to the United States and its former chief peace negotiator.

"This might prod a large number of Israelis who still stand on the edge of the two camps to choose the peace camp," he said.

"It could well be to their

advantage."

The peace process with the Palestinians is still not entirely guaranteed.

Although Israeli troop redeployments in the West Bank were negotiated in the latest agreement with the PLO in September, difficult talks loom next year on the "final status" of the Palestinian entity and the future of Jerusalem.

Talks are also stalled with Syria. Israel is deeply divided about returning the Golan Heights, captured in the 1967 Middle East war.

Jordanian officials believe that anger in Israel at the killing of Rabin could boost Labour and Peres, who although he lacks Rabin's vote-catching power at home is more popular in most Arab capitals.

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advantage."

Since their peace deal, Jordan and Israel have opened borders, exchanged ambassadors and reached cooperation accords. But the process still has far to go.

This was evident in the streets after Rabin's killing.

There were a few signs of sorrow in a country where many see their strategic interests better protected by a close alliance with the rest of the Arab World rather than with Israel.

Jordanians generally still view Israel as an occupier which is reluctant to accommodate Palestinian rights to nationhood and to withdraw from the rest of the occupied Arab territories in Syria and Lebanon.

"Only through our unwavering commitment to this objective can we honour the memory of this fallen hero of peace."

The Islamic Action Front, with other independent allies, holds a third of the 82 seats in Parliament and has tried to sabotage the treaty, said the Arabs should not shed tears over Rabin's loss since he was the one who fought them and occupied their territories.

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Throughout the night and Monday morning, 82 planes carrying foreign leaders landed at Ben-Gurion international airport.

In an unprecedented security operation, some 12,000 police officers were deployed 8,000 in Jerusalem and 4,000 at the airport.

World leaders at the funeral included Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, British Prime Minister John Major, Prince Charles, French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Helmut Koh

## Investors hold nerve over Israel, see peace impetus

LONDON (R) — International investors see the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as a tragedy but say it is unlikely to either derail the overall peace process or scare away long-term investors.

"The (Israel equity) market was down 3.5 per cent at one stage but if the Israeli people or world investors believed this death would seriously reverse the peace process or hold it up, it would have been off 10 per cent," said Roger Hornett, head of the Israel desk at Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull (SGST), whose \$140 million Israel fund was largely unchanged Monday.

Omar Masri, who manages

Foreign Colonial's (F.C.) \$37.5 million Israel fund, said the Israeli equity market was down slightly as expected but had already recovered. "It wasn't a crash ... though obviously this (event) doesn't help."

"There has been some selling by foreigners but the dedicated Israel funds and the more sophisticated investors will weather it, even if they put everything on hold for a week or so," he added.

Mr. Hornett said long term investors would use any dips in the equity market as a buying opportunity, choosing sectors likely to benefit from the peace process and renewed immigration, like food and drink stocks, retailers

and tourism. "Investment is cruel and hard, there is no false sympathy," Mr. Hornett added. "If the market is better it is because people see this (event) as a diversion and no more."

Guy Rigden at UBS Ltd said there was a general "wait and see" attitude amongst investors in Europe.

"People realise there are plenty of ways this can be played out. It is relatively calm, there was some buying interest before the opening and that has followed through," he said.

Inquiries were coming from Europe, as the U.S. markets were not yet open.

### VOLKSWAGEN TO SET VW ASSEMBLY PLANT IN JORDAN



Dr. Piech visits VW/Audi Maintenance Center.

Chairman of the Volkswagen Group A.G., Dr. Ferdinand Piech, announced during his recent visit to Jordan to attend the 95 MENA summit, that Volkswagen will set-up a VW assembly plant in Jordan, in partnership with VW's local dealership, the Motor Trade Co. This very important decision by VW-Group-Germany came as one of many other major results of the MENA

Co., as well. During a banquet held in honour of Dr. Ferdinand Piech by Motor Trade Co. Chairman, Mr. Zahi Masri, at his farm in South Shuneh, attended by Jordanian dignitaries and officials, Dr. Piech, presented a VW ambulance to the Jordan Armed Forces, which was assigned

Audi A6. During his attendance of the 95 Amman Summit, Dr. Ferdinand Piech did not miss to visit Motor Trade Co. Showroom and Maintenance Centre in Marka where he expressed how impressed he was with the VW/Audi facilities, which was assigned

Dr. Piech seated with Former Prime Ministers, and Mayor Abbadi, and proves that Jordan is qualified and capable of welcoming the aspired foreign investments.

The Jordan VW plant will be equipped for the assembly of ambulance as well as medium size buses and commercial vehicles. This major step by VW Group is an important indicator of the trust and confidence they vest in their local partners. Motor Trade

as a gift from the VW Group, while Motor Trade Co. presented the Royal Air Force with an

1994 as the Training Centre for the Middle and Near East region.

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## South currencies attacks

in Siong, an ex-consultancy development of Asia, set up Asian centre such speculative

for Singapore which have favourable, Indonesia, Thailand and the are among the growing South East Asian countries whose currency is sinking to the red.

rent account, a lot of nation's payments, means goods and service transfers and report estimat

95, Thailand's deficit is to grow to \$7.8 billion by Malaysia's \$1.5 billion, the Philippines' \$1.3 billion, Indonesia's \$1.2 billion.

Lian, economic West Capital attributed the the widening of the rate of savings. The probably be peak and could a correction at a

not because the are not sure but their investment shot up, there is a ge inflow of foreign, Mr. Lian. The policies will be sub

ability because between investment has to be foreign saving noted.

ROSCOPES

AST FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 1995

(March 21 to 28) Up to date, up over the morning, you handle affairs successfully.

: (April 20 to 27) It is not a good get into any hurriedly, so and true. Late: you can make new contact.

: (May 21 to 28) You get flustered in poor hours today. Later you can go out with which you

CHILDREN: (July 21) The more not good for our agreement, but later this evening better.

July 22 to August 18: forceful at in the morning, look for tonight, look for interests which are very profitable.

: (August 21 to 28) This is to make appointment with friends and for recreation can come to a meeting with your

(September 21 to 28) Try not to those at home today. Later you can be engaged which you

: (October 21 to 28) Do not with others in today. Later you well in business a successful and only.

ARIUS: (November 21) You difficult to have affairs in the money, but later more periodically which is a slant.

ORN: (December 21 to 28) The good in the money or gaining personal but later tonight a practical problem.

IUS: (January 19) Don't personal wish it today since later you can get far better.

: (February 20) A friend at you, but later your mate for the pleasure in the eye.

: (February 27 to 28) One sterling \$1.5810/20 One ounce of gold \$382.30/382.60

## Two U.S. banks announce \$10.3b merger agreement

NEW YORK (AFP) — The Los Angeles-based First Interstate Bank and First Bank System of Minneapolis said Monday they have agreed on a \$10.3 billion merger that would create the ninth largest U.S. bank.

The agreement is aimed at countering a \$10 billion hostile takeover bid last month for First Interstate by the California-based Wells Fargo Bank, which First Interstate formally rejected Monday.

The terms concluded by First Bank System (FBS) and First Interstate calls for a swap of 2.6 FBS shares to one First Interstate share, or \$132.275 a share at Friday's closing price for FBS shares.

The price represents 25 per cent premium over the value of First Interstate on Oct. 17, the day before the hostile takeover bid by Wells Fargo and First Interstate.

But he noted that Wells Fargo has "the ability to pay a lot more if they wanted" to acquire First Interstate.

FBS is a regional bank based in Minneapolis, Minnesota with \$37.3 billion in assets. It has 366 offices, mainly in Minnesota, Colorado, the Dakotas, Montana and Wisconsin.

First Interstate, which is strongest in California, has \$55.1 billion in assets and operates in 13 western states with 1,148 branch offices.

The merger would result in annual savings of \$300 million.

0.87 cents at \$211.37. The merger of FBS and First Interstate would broadly extend their geographical reach, with an established presence in the midwest, west and southwest. Together the banks are present in 21 states, but overlap in only three — Colorado, Montana and Wyoming.

"First Bank System is very similar in characteristics to First Interstate, very spread out," said John Gutfreund, the former chief executive officer of Salomon Brothers who now heads J.H. Gutfreund and Co.

Mr. Gutfreund described the FBS-First Interstate merger as "a more natural marriage" than the alliance between Wells Fargo and First Interstate.

But he noted that Wells Fargo has "the ability to pay a lot more if they wanted" to acquire First Interstate.

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lion and contribute positively to earnings from the first full year, the banks said.

First Interstate said it had rejected the Wells Fargo offer because it would lead to a large loss of jobs in California.

The bank said it would reject the offer even if it were raised to 0.65 Wells Fargo shares for one of First Interstate.

state, from an initial offer of 0.625 share to one.

At Friday's close, Wells Fargo's offer amounted to \$132.65 a share for First Interstate.

**AMERICAN FINANCIAL MARKET**  
HEADQUARTERS CENTER AMMAN - ZARQA  
TELEPHONE: 607171 / 601179  
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY  
COMPANY'S NAME NO. OF SHARES TRADED 06/11/1995  
ARAB BANK P.L.C. 100 24000 240.000 240.000  
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK 3050 1548 1.470 1.470  
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK 12000 14403 1.200 1.200  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK 150 360 2.410 2.400  
THE ROYAL BANK 2650 12532 4.400 4.400  
JORDAN GULF BANK 138852 145474 1.130 1.140  
JORDAN COMMERCIAL BANK 150 1150 3.400 3.400  
UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT 300 1179 3.740 3.740  
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK 1700 6358 3.740 3.740  
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT 14800 14565 990 990  
ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN 83 4440 5.300 5.300  
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK 7000 59713 1.590 1.630  
BANKS SECTOR 20433 305209 INDEX NUMBER: 189.53  
CHANGE: + 0.03%

JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER 2456 4013 1.620 1.640  
JORDAN RAILWAYS 200 2.200 2.200  
JORDANIAN STEPPING LINES 250 438 2.600 2.550  
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIZING 1200 2376 1.980 1.980  
UNITE MIDDLE EAST & COMMERCIAL HOTELS 250 580 2.360 2.320  
ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION 2700 8897 3.100 3.290  
JORDANIAN EDUCATIONAL INVESTMENT HOLDING 250 1800 1.100 1.100  
JORDANIAN UNIVERSITIES 3000 3875 1.290 1.290  
UNION LAND DEVELOPMENT CORP. 275 300 1.090 1.090  
SERVICES SECTOR 10700 21912 INDEX NUMBER: 126.90  
CHANGE: - 0.29%

JETAMBOOR COAST. MATERIAL MANUFACTURING 500 600 1.200 1.200  
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES 5280 22725 3.630 3.630  
JORDAN PROSPEROUS MINES 550 1650 3.000 3.000  
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY 30 281 9.370 9.370  
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL 125 445 3.500 3.550  
THE JORDAN WOOLSTEX MILLS 100 7450 7.600 7.600  
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING 1480 6815 4.100 4.100  
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES 300 1800 6.000 6.000  
SPINNING & WEAVING 6500 12275 1.720 1.750  
DAR AL DAHA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT 808 5670 7.100 7.000  
1100 5885 5.350 5.350  
JORDAN ALUMINUM INDUSTRY 12000 17211 1.400 1.400  
LAVAL INDUSTRIES 2000 2327 1.400 1.400  
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING 1650 432 2.100 2.080  
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY 400 432 2.100 2.080  
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES 300 541 1.800 1.800  
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING 1500 6000 4.100 4.000  
JORDAN SULFUR-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES 500 632 1.270 1.280  
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES 2050 6407 3.120 3.150  
JORDAN COTTON INDUSTRIES CO. 2500 6747 1.100 1.100  
JORDAN NEW CABLE COMPANY 3000 6515 1.550 1.550  
INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO & CIGARETTES 9800 13292 1.410 1.430  
UNION CHEMICAL & VEGETABLE OIL INDUSTRY 10044 19866 2.000 1.990  
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR 75929 135773 INDEX NUMBER: 123.34  
CHANGE: - 0.10%

GRAND TOTAL 290962 462894 INDEX NUMBER: 126.88  
CHANGE: - 0.04%

NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET : 166852  
VALUE TRADED IN PARALLEL MARKET : 192365

## Business Daily Beat

A review of news from the Arabic press

## Price of table eggs rises

★★PRICES OF TABLE eggs went up for the second consecutive day and for the second time this month to reach JD 1.450 per carton.

The price of table eggs has risen about 53 per cent in less than a year. Market traders attribute the rise to large numbers of small poultry farmers leaving the market and to the lack of coordination between the association of foodstuff traders, the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Industry and the Ministry of Supply. Some sources rejected any relation between the price rise of eggs and the increase in the price of fodder and the value of the dollar. Fodder prices did not go up more than 10 per cent at the most, the sources said. Also rising was the cost of Al Ghazal ghee which last week went up from JD 1.425 to JD 1.570 in addition to a reduction in the weight of the can. Other products, such as canned cheese and triangular cheese, are selling for higher prices within less than one year span (Al Aswaq).

## Cabinet authorises minting coins

★★ THE COUNCIL of Ministers has approved minting two JD 5 coins, one in silver and the other in metal on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations (Al Ra'i).

## Minister okays setting up new Jordan-Israel transport firm

★★ THE MINISTER of industry and trade has approved founding a public shareholding company to transport passengers between Jordan and Israel. The company will have a JD 10 million capital and will transport passengers between Amman-Tel Aviv, Amman, Amman-Haifa-Amman, Aqaba-Eilat-Aqaba and Amman-Nazareth-Amman (Al Ra'i).

## Egypt exempts Jordanian trucks from 'diesel fees'

★★ EGYPT DECIDED to exempt Jordanian trucks crossing between Aqaba and Nuweiba from "diesel fees." The Egyptian decision comes in response to a Jordanian decision to exempt Arab trucks coming from Jordan from diesel fees on condition that Jordanian trucks entering any Arab country is given the same treatment (Al Ra'i).

## Jordan asks S. Arabia to use its vast gas well

★★ THE MINISTRY of Energy and Mineral Resources has contacted the Saudi authorities to use the Tabuk gas well and is awaiting a reply from Riyadh which had shown positive signs towards this subject, the minister Samih Darwazeh, said. The minister pointed out that Saudi Arabia does not use the Tabuk gas well which could be of great benefit of Jordan as it is very close to the Jordanian-Saudi border. The well, the largest natural gas well in Saudi Arabia, is about 200 kilometres from the border. Mr. Darwazeh said Jordan requested cooperation with the Saudis to extract the gas and to develop the Tabuk well or to allow the Kingdom to import its needs from the area. The minister stressed that it is much easier and cheaper to import gas from Saudi Arabia than from Egypt or Qatar, because if the Saudis agree to export gas to Jordan, it would come directly through a pipeline whereas Egyptian or Qatari gas exports have to come by ships. However, Mr. Darwazeh noted, a Saudi approval would not mean gas sufficiency for Jordan, but a step to consolidate gas imports from Egypt and Qatar. Jordan's gas output from Al Rishieh field covers only 15 per cent of the Kingdom's needs. The minister expressed hope that by the year 2000, Jordan will completely rely on gas instead of heavy fuel to generate electric power (Al Dustour).

## New, large industrial city to be built next year

★★ FAYEZ SUHEIMAT, director-general of the Industrial Estates Corporation, has announced that 2,000 dunums of land belonging to a governmental institution were assigned to build a large industrial city south of Amman. Dr. Suheimat said the project, to be the largest industrial scheme in Jordan, will be implemented in two stages. The engineering design and the tender documents will be prepared next month and the construction of buildings and networks will start during the second half of next year. He pointed out that the site will accommodate more than 300 small and medium-size industries which will be grouped according to sectors. The project will be financed from the corporation's own resources in addition to a loan from the European Investment Bank (Al Ra'i).

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One U.S. dollar 1.3476/66 1.4132/42 1.5836/46 1.1360/70 29.05/09 4.8861/11 1.5923/38 1.0327/37 6.6610/10 6.2330/80 5.4739/39 1.4112/22 0.7562/67 7.7323/33

One sterling \$1.5810/20 One ounce of gold \$382.30/382.60

IUS: (January 19) Don't you personal wish it today since later you can get far better. Act in a pre

: (February 20) A friend at you, but later your mate for the pleasure in the eye.

— Tiger's Eye



Pete Sampras

## Sampras back to No. 1 after a struggle

PARIS (AP) — For Pete Sampras it's been a long road to regain the No. 1 spot in tennis.

It started in January, with tears shed on court for his coach, Tim Gullikson who had to leave the Australian Open with brain cancer.

Through April, when he lost the No. 1 ranking in tennis to Andre Agassi after holding it for 82 weeks.

Through July, when he won Wimbledon for the third consecutive time, beating Becker but still trailing Agassi in the rankings.

And September, when he beat Agassi at the U.S. Open.

So it is only fitting that Sampras regained the top spot in tennis after beating Becker in the final of the Paris Open, ironically at the expense of a missing Agassi, who could not defend his Paris Open title.

"I was going through a lot of tough times off the court with the situation with Tim and just my life in general, was in turmoil. I just needed to bounce back from that," Sampras said after he beat Becker, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-4 to take the Paris title.

"This year is more rewarding than any year that I have had because I have been able to bounce back."

"I learned a lot about myself and learned a lot about my tennis and was able to bounce back from being pretty low," he said. "So it has been a strange year, but it

also has been pretty good."

In Paris, Sampras took his 36th career title and fifth of the season and will move up from the No. 2 spot in the rankings he has held since Agassi overtook him on April 10.

"I think one of the main reasons why I lost the No. 1 ranking a while ago was I got hurt at the end of last year and Andre certainly picked up his tennis and was playing extremely well," Sampras said.

Now Sampras will be ranked No. 1 heading into the ATP finals in Frankfurt, Germany Nov. 14-19.

In the Paris final, with both players serving under 50 per

cent, it came down to who was more consistent in jumping on second serves to return winners or set up the point.

"The return of services was the key was of the game," Sampras said. "It always is against Becker. Like it was in Wimbledon this year."

Becker led the ace count, 19-12, but a number of his were needed to come from behind in games.

"I can serve better," Becker said.

"That key was he used his break point opportunities and I didn't use mine," Becker said. "He played exceptionally well under pressure. He didn't make easy mistakes."

### ATP tennis rankings

1. Pete Sampras (USA) 5438
2. Andre Agassi (USA) 4867
3. Thomas Muster (Aut) 4474
4. Boris Becker (Ger) 3135
5. Michael Chang (USA) 2980
6. Yevgeny Kafelnikov (Rus) 2519
7. Jim Courier (USA) 2443
8. Thomas Enqvist (Swe) 2139
9. Wayne Ferreira (Rsa) 2049
10. Goran Ivanisevic (Cro) 1861
11. Sergi Bruguera (Spa) 1781
12. Richard Krajicek (Ned) 1756
13. Michael Stich (Ger) 1727
14. Magnus Larsson (Swe) 1463
15. Marc Rosset (Swt) 1414
16. Arnaud Boetsch (Fra) 1397
17. Andrei Medvedev (Ukr) 1386
18. Paul Biharis (Ned) 1276
19. Todd Martin (USA) 1268
20. Gilbert Schaller (Aut) 1256

### Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein

The Jordanian Society for Cardiovascular Diseases (charitable) is holding its

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amid the kingdom's celebrations of

#### His Majesty

#### King Hussein's Birthday

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**PLAZA**

Charlie Sheen and Nastassja Kinski ...in  
**Terminal Velocity**  
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA TEL: 677420

**CONCORD**

**CONCORD "1"**  
On Deadly Ground  
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:30  
**CONCORD "2"**  
Adel Imam & Yusra  
Birds of the Darkness  
(Arabic)  
Shows: 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:15

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## Parma, PSG assume command

PARIS (AFP) — An exciting 3-2 home victory in their derby match against Cagliari late Sunday kept depleted AC Milan level-peging with Parma on top of the Italian first division while Argentinian midfielder Diego Simeone ensured Atletico Madrid retained their lead in Spain by scoring the only goal of their match at Real Zaragoza.

But in France, Paris St. Germain, 3-2 home winners over Nice, took over top of the table from Metz, who crashed to their second defeat in as many weeks when they were beaten 1-0 at Bastia.

And in Germany mighty Bayern Munich suffered humiliation when they were thrashed 4-1 by Eintracht Frankfurt to lose and losing top slot to champions Borussia Dortmund who ran out 3-0 winners over Fortuna Dusseldorf.

European champions Ajax lost their first points of the season but kept their unbeaten record with a 1-1 home draw against PSV Eindhoven in the Dutch first division. Ajax had won 12 straight going into Sunday's game.

AC Milan, playing without injured star strikers George Weah and Roberto Baggio, started like an express train and were 2-0 up after just fifteen minutes after Di Canio and Lentini had found the Cagliari net.

Oliveira pulled one back for the visitors after half-an-hour but AC Milan added another goal through Simone Ziliani three minutes into the second-half.

But the home side let things slip in the second-half and when Oliveira slotted home a 68th minute penalty it left Milan an uncomfortable 20 minutes.

Parma, thanks to a goal in each half, beat struggling Cremonese 2-0 away to stay level with Milan — but champions Juventus slumped to a 1-0 defeat at Udinese.

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VEMBER 7, 1995

## land First-year Panthers upset SF 49ers

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — San Francisco's humiliation became complete here Sunday when the injury-riddled 49ers became American football's first reigning champions ever to be beaten by a first-year club.

Carolina cornerback Tim McTyre, a former 49er, returned an interception 96 yards for a touchdown and John Kasay kicked a pair of field goals for the expansion Panthers in a stunning 13-7 victory over the 49ers.

"We're hurting," 49ers' defensive back Tim McDonald said. "I thought it couldn't get any worse."

The triumph was the fourth in a row by the Panthers (4-5), who equalled the most victories ever for a debuting team by winning their fourth in a row.

"It seems like one of the more improbable things to come in as a rookie and beat the world champion on their home turf. Today it happened," Panthers' quarterback Kerry Collins said.

The 49ers (5-4) struggled on offence again after falling 11-7 last week at New Orleans. The second straight defeat dropped the injury-weakened 49ers one game behind Atlanta in the NFC West division.

Quarterback Steve Young is sidelined with a bruised shoulder and rusher William Floyd is out for the season with torn knee ligaments. Young, sidelined with a bruised shoulder, returns next week when the 49ers

play arch-rival Dallas.

"Nobody expects us to win next week," Samoan-born 49ers' blocker Jesse Sapolu said. "We're going to go out and give it our best shot," the downhearted guard added.

The stunner overshadowed the continued success of Kansas City. Marcus Allen and Kimble Anders rushed for touchdowns and Steve Bono threw for another to lead the Chiefs past Washington 24-3.

The Chiefs are now a league-best 8-1 but the Dallas Cowboys could match that record with a home victory Monday over Philadelphia.

Allen scored on a one-yard run. Bono threw a 19-yard pass to Willie Davis early in the second quarter. Bono completed 21 of 37

### NFL ROUNDUP

passes for 201 yards. Anders scored the only points of the second half on a 40-yard touchdown run.

Oakland remained one game behind the Chiefs in the AFC West with a 20-17 victory at Cincinnati. Harvey Williams rushed for 134 yards and a touchdown and the Raiders' defence had four sacks and two turnovers.

A boozing Cleveland crowd of 57,000 watched Houston inflict a 37-10 rout on the Browns, who are expected to announce Monday they are moving to Baltimore.

"I have been here eight years and that ranks right up there as one of the worst moments," Browns' blocker

Antonio Langham said. John Elway completed 16 of 21 passes for 256 yards and three touchdowns to spark Denver past Arizona 38-6. His scoring throws were one, 23 and 47 yards. Elway became only the seventh NFL quarterback — and second of the day — to reach 40,000 career passing yards.

Minnesota's Warren Moon also passed the milestone. He connected with Jake Reed on two passes for 45 yards in the final minute to set up Fuad Reveiz's 39-yard field goal as time expired for a 27-24 victory over Green Bay.

The Packers lost more than the game. Quarterback Brett Favre and backup Ty Detmer

mark of 342.

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The American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) has been given a grant by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to construct a protective, membrane-covered space frame shelter over an archaeological site at Petra.

ACOR seeks a single source vendor for engineering the space frame, the membrane roof, supporting columns and foundation; fabrications of all components; transportation of all materials to the site; and erection of the cover.

The space frame will be of an all aluminium hub and spoke system, coated with Kynar paint of custom color. The membrane will be poly-vinyl with teflon coating (7.5 oz/yd). minimum weight fabric with custom color.

Qualified vendors may obtain bid documents from The American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), P.O. Box 2470, Jabal Amman, Amman 11181 Jordan, Tel. 846-117, 841-132; Fax 844-181. Bids must be received by noon, December 8, 1995.

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## 'Graf's father beat her'

**FRANKFURT (AP)** — Steffi Graf's father, who is jailed on allegations of evading taxes on the tennis champ's earnings, allegedly beat and kicked her during training, Der Spiegel magazine said Sunday.

Jim Kelly threw a 51-yard

touchdown to Bill Brooks and Steve Christie kicked three field goals for Buffalo

in a 16-10 victory at Indiana.

Norm Johnson's 24-yard

field goal in overtime gave

Pittsburgh a 37-34 triumph

over Chicago.

Brian Blades scored on two

touchdown passes by Rick

Mirer in the first quarter and

the Seattle Seahawks hung on

to beat the New York Giants

30-28.

Rookie Curtis Martin

rushed for a career-high 140

yards and two touchdowns and

New England defeated

the New York Jets 20-7.

Doug Brien kicked four field

goals in his New Orleans

debut and the Saints won

19-10 over St. Louis.

Miami retained a share of

the AFC East division lead

with a 24-14 victory at San

Diego. Dan Marino threw for

two touchdowns and moved

within 37 yards of matching

the NFL career passing record

of 47,003 set by Fran

Tarkenton. He also needs

four touchdown passes to

equal Tarkenton's career

mark of 342.

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# Suspect says he killed Rabin because premier was setting up Palestine

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The suspected assassin of Yitzhak Rabin told an Israeli court Monday that he had killed the prime minister because Mr. Rabin "wants to give our country to the Arabs". The judge remanded Yigal Amir into custody for 15 days.

Unshaven and handcuffed, the slightly built Amir was brought before Magistrate Dan Arbel at Tel Aviv's main courthouse, several hundred metres from the plaza where he allegedly shot Mr. Rabin Saturday night.

"I did this to stop the peace process," he told the judge in a calm, even tone. "We need to be cold hearted."

Amir, 27, a law and computer science student, said Mr. Rabin had released Palestinian prisoners from jail and "a few days later" these men killed Jews.

"Interesting how a whole nation doesn't notice that a Palestinian state is starting to be established" as a result of Mr. Rabin's policies, Mr. Amir said.

Judge Dan Arbel asked him: "And what about the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill'?"

But Amir replied: "You have to kill him who is selling off his country. There is a higher imperative, more important (than respecting the commandments), to save human life."

Judge Arbel told the court: "Before me is a suspect in one of the worst crimes ever committed in Israel, possibly the worst committed at all times in this country."

The suspect confesses to the murder of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin... and does not deny that he planned it in advance and did it with a clear mind."

Police said Amir came out of the crowd in Tel Aviv's Kings of Israel Square and fired three shots with a Beretta pistol. Mr. Rabin, hit in the back and stomach, died on the operating table some 90 minutes later. The third bullet wounded a bodyguard.

Amir was arrested in July for taking part in violent protests by Jewish settlers of the occupied West Bank against Mr. Rabin's peace policies with the Palestinians.

"The nation didn't care that the prime minister was elected by 20 per cent Arabs. I was at the demonstration. It was 50 per cent Arabs. What will you do when there are two million Arabs here? Will we give the state to the Arabs?"

## Peres' options — caretaking until November or snap poll?

Sarah Honig of the Jerusalem Post newspaper filed this report yesterday.

AS ISRAEL prepared to bid its final farewell to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the shaken political arena was already ripe with speculation about what a new government headed by Shimon Peres would look like, how long it would serve, and how large a coalition could be put together.

### Early elections?

Some hesitant voices inside the Labour Party began Sunday to cautiously test the notion of advancing the elections by several months, perhaps to late spring. This could have significant advantages for Labour, some point out. The economic situation appears suitable. There is a general sense of prosperity. The security situation is relatively calm and the PLO could be prevailed upon to do its utmost to help Peres.

The government could capitalise on the completion of a phase of its dealings with Arafat, without yet embarking on the far rockier road ahead. The Syrians could be placed on the back burner, postponing further controversy and depriving The Third Way of a major plank of its platform.

But most of all, the new government could capitalise in a big way on the sympathy the Rabin assassination could generate. It could present the peace process in an entirely different light, and it can blame the Likud for the assassination and hopefully bury it under a backlash of revulsion.

But this view is countered by those who point out that Peres is no novice; he knows

Asked by the judge where he got his ideas, Amir said he drew on the halacha — the Jewish legal code. "According to the halacha, you can kill the enemy. My whole life, I learned halacha. When you kill in war, it is an act that is allowed."

Asked whether he acted alone, Amir told the judge: "It was God."

Amir was wearing the same garb he had on when he was tackled by police after the shooting — the black skullcap of orthodox Jews, jeans and a blue T-shirt. He complained that he had not been given a towel, nor a toothbrush and soap. "Arab prisoners get more than I do."

Even though his family has retained an attorney, Amir told Judge Arbel he did not want to be represented by a lawyer.

The hearing, under tight security, lasted 10 minutes. No spectators were allowed in the courtroom.

Police minister Moshe Shahal called for a state inquiry into how Amir managed to outwit Israel's famed secret service and fire at Mr. Rabin from point-blank range.

One explanation, accord-

ing to security sources, is that the police were geared to prevent attacks by Arabs, not Jews.

Legal sources said Amir would probably face life imprisonment if found guilty. The death penalty, on the statute book for crimes against humanity and for which Adolf Eichmann was executed 34 years ago, does not apply in civil murder cases.

It was the first assassination of an Israeli leader in the country's 47-year-old history.

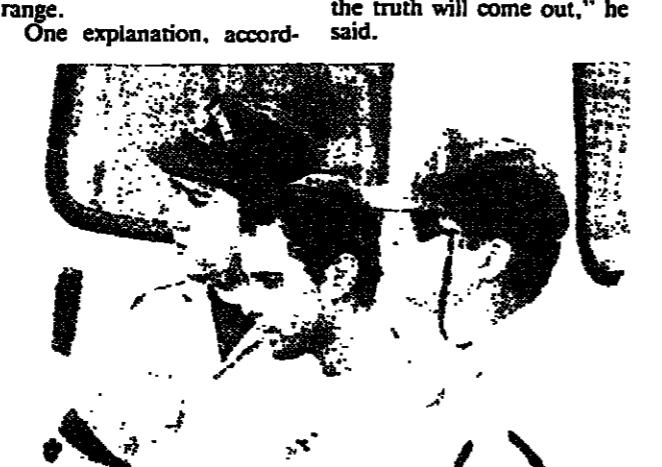
Israeli television stations said the inquiry might be headed by Menachem Shamgar, the country's chief justice until three months ago, or by retired Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, Israel's army chief in the mid-1980s.

Israel Radio said Mr. Rabin, shot as he neared his car after the rally, had maximum protection, including 20 guards, yet the gunman was able to get within 1.5 metres of him.

Yacov Peri, 51, who re-

tired as head of Israel's Shin Bet secret service in February after nearly three decades.

Also called for a state commission of inquiry — "so that the truth will come out," he said.



Israeli police officers escort Yigal Amir to his court hearing in Tel Aviv on Monday accused of the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (AFP photo)

## Most Israelis oppose early election

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Two-thirds of Israelis are against holding early elections following the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a public poll said.

Some 64 per cent of people polled by the Dafah Institute were opposed to bringing forward the date of the elections scheduled for November 1996.

Some 30 per cent were in favour while the rest expressed no opinion, in a poll of 505 Israelis.

Foreign minister Shimon Peres was appointed acting premier after Mr. Rabin was killed late Saturday by a Jewish extremist at a peace rally in Tel Aviv.

Under Israeli law, President Ezer Weizman is to appoint a deputy, most likely Mr. Peres, to form a new government.

The poll also found that two-thirds of Israelis believe extreme rightwing groups should be outlawed following the murder of Mr. Rabin.

Some 74 per cent of people said such groups should be banned, according to the Dafah Institute poll published in the daily *Yediot Aharonot*.

Only 20 per cent were against while six per cent voiced no opinion.

Interior Minister Ehud Barak told journalists: "We have to wipe out all extremist groups. For that we have to use all our means within the law to cut off at birth all incitement to violence."

But one of the leaders of the extreme right parliamentary group, Rafael Eitan, said Mr. Rabin should have taken into consideration the threats made against him.

"The buds of violence should have been cut off at the root with an iron hand," said Mr. Eitan, a former chief of staff and a personal friend of Mr. Rabin.

The leader of Israel's main opposition Likud Party told extremist Jewish groups in the United States to stay away from his country following the assassination of Mr. Rabin.

"Go away, stay away. We don't want you, we don't need you," Benjamin Netanyahu told CBS Television's "60 minutes," referring specifically to the right-wing Jewish Defence League (JDL) in New York.

No connection has been made between the JDL and the killer of Mr. Rabin.

Mr. Netanyahu's own Likud Party is strongly critical of the Middle East peace process but has always stressed that Jews should not shed Jewish blood.

The Likud leader said when he attended a rally last month he had heard demonstrators calling Mr. Rabin a traitor.

"I lashed out at that very strongly and silenced those cries. I think the responsibility of leaders is to go against this type of incitement," Mr. Netanyahu told CBS.

"In democracy you change government not by bullets but by ballots," he added.

## ANALYSIS

There are also technical considerations. The parties are only beginning to gear up for the primaries, and the Interior Ministry is far from ready to handle a quick election.

### How big a coalition?

Shas's Aryeh Deri has again seized the opportunity to stir the political cauldron. On Sunday, he proposed a broad coalition, perhaps one of national unity. No one in Labour has ruled this out. In the Likud, there was reluctance to handle this hot potato, but no one tossed it away.

In some Labour quarters, the betting is that Peres will make overtures to form a broader coalition, but without

He might seek to enlist Shas and United Torah Juda-

ism. The post-assassination shock might help Peres, but the internal strife in both haredi parties may complicate his task.

### A cabinet reshuffle

Of all possible scenarios, Labour insiders believe, at least initially, the most likely is that Peres will keep the government as nearly intact as he can to avoid political aftershocks. As is, great tension is already mounting in Labour, since the centre of power has shifted.

Despite the recent appearance of harmony, there remains fierce competition between the Rabin and Peres camps, and Rabin loyalists feel the ground crumbling under them. Those who abandoned Peres and switched to Rabin, like Police Minister Moshe Shahal, have even greater political woes.

Rabin left a vacuum that will cause unavoidable shifts inside the cabinet, unless Peres decides to keep both the Foreign and Defence portfolios in addition to the premiership.

The betting is that pressure from below will prevent him from doing this. Barak will want Defence, but since he is not a Peres man, Peres may not be happy to hand it over. Doing so would vacate Interior for Ramon, another man Peres does not like, but cannot turn away.

Ramón may not like the leg-up which Defence would give Barak, and Peres may not like either too near the top. This may provide further incentive for Peres to expand the coalition and create the need to hand portfolios to people outside Labour, who pose no threat.

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A general view of the funeral of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in West Jerusalem Monday (AFP photo)

## Qatari, Omani ministers attend funeral and pay tribute to Rabin

DUBAI (Agencies) — Ministers from Qatar and Oman made unprecedented visits to Jerusalem on Monday for the funeral of slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, speeding up the pace of normalisation between the Gulf Arab states and Israel.

Qatar's minister of information and culture, Hamad Abd Aziz Kawari, flew to Israel to pay his respects to Mr. Rabin who was gunned down by a Jewish assassin on Saturday.

Oman sent its minister of state for foreign affairs, Yousef Ben Alawi, to attend the funeral and present his country's condolences to the Israeli cabinet.

The foreign minister of Mauritania, Mohammad Salem Ould Lekhal, was dispatched by his government to attend the funeral.

Qatar's Kawari said: "We hope that what happened to Rabin will act as a spur to conclude a comprehensive peace in the region.

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Doha started making public contact with Israel in 1994 and its interior and foreign ministers met Mr. Rabin for the first time last month in New York.

Qatar is also in negotiations with the Jewish state to open an Israeli trade office in Doha. Last month Israel signed a letter of intent to buy Qatar liquefied natural gas from the U.S. company Enron starting in the year 2000.

Mr. Rabin visited Oman late last year in a trail-blazing trip to the region, while Muscat announced last month it had agreed with Israel to open trade offices in each other's country, the first move by a Gulf Arab state.

Meanwhile, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — made up of Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates — expressed "regret" over the killing during a meeting in Muscat on Sunday.

Officially, the GCC is still committed by the Arab League's boycott of Israel which has existed since 1948, but it lifted the indirect boycott last year on third-country firms dealing with Israel.

Mr. Ben Alawi, the Omani minister, said Sunday that the GCC was "confident that the peace process would continue" despite the killing which he hoped would "spur the world into uniting its efforts" for peace.

The dispatch of the ministers in itself marked an acceleration of the normalisation process, he added.

## Settlers, Palestinian camp residents hold celebrations

Combined agency dispatches

HARDLINERS ON both sides of the Middle Eastern divide on Monday celebrated the death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"He got what he deserved," said settler Ari Bar Yossef, 38, with a long grey beard, referring to Mr. Rabin. "He was leading his people to suicide."

Mr. Yossef said he was particularly happy that Mr. Rabin was assassinated by a Jew: "It was a Kiddush Hashem, a sanctification in the name of God."

David Ben Avraham, another settler, said: "I would have been very unhappy if he had been killed by an Arab."

"Finally, the Jewish people can become a true nation, and not solely a simple religious community," he said, explaining the murder of a Jew as a "sacred" right of expression.

The militants recited verses from the Koran, applauded and shouted God is great as the effigy burned to cinders.

Thousands of Palestinian refugees in Ain Al Hilweh — the largest of 12 camps in Lebanon with a population of around 70,000 — danced and sang in the streets and fired guns and rockets after a Jewish fanatic killed Mr. Rabin on Saturday.

Islamic Jihad accused Mr. Rabin of personally ordering the killing of their leader, Fathi Shabani, on Oct. 26 in Malta and vowed to keep up the armed struggle against Israel despite Mr. Rabin's death.

A few settlers from the right-wing Kiryat Arba settlement in Hebron in West Bank gathered at the tomb of their "brother" Baruch Gold-